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HISTORICAL ACCOUNT

OF THE MOST CELEBRATED

VOYAGES,
TRAVELS, AND DISCOVERIES,
FROM THE
TIME OF COLUMBUS

TO THE
PRESENT PERIOD.

"Non apis inde tulit collector sedula flores." Ovid.

By WILLIAM MAVOR, LL.D.

VOL. XVIII.

224

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CONTENTS OF VOL. XVIII.

T RAVELS in Switzerland, by William Coxe, M.A. F.R.S. F.A.S. &c. &c. - - -	Page 1
View of Society and Manners, in France, Swit- zerland, and Germany, by John Moore, M.D. - - - - -	177

CONTENTS OF VOL. XXII.

CONTENTS

1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7	7
8	8
9	9
10	10
11	11
12	12
13	13
14	14
15	15
16	16
17	17
18	18
19	19
20	20
21	21
22	22
23	23
24	24
25	25
26	26
27	27
28	28
29	29
30	30
31	31
32	32
33	33
34	34
35	35
36	36
37	37
38	38
39	39
40	40
41	41
42	42
43	43
44	44
45	45
46	46
47	47
48	48
49	49
50	50
51	51
52	52
53	53
54	54
55	55
56	56
57	57
58	58
59	59
60	60
61	61
62	62
63	63
64	64
65	65
66	66
67	67
68	68
69	69
70	70
71	71
72	72
73	73
74	74
75	75
76	76
77	77
78	78
79	79
80	80
81	81
82	82
83	83
84	84
85	85
86	86
87	87
88	88
89	89
90	90
91	91
92	92
93	93
94	94
95	95
96	96
97	97
98	98
99	99
100	100

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IN

SWITZERLAND,

BY

WILLIAM COXE,

M.A. F.R.S. F.A.S. &c. &c.

AMONG the various scientific travellers that this country has produced, few rank higher in the public estimation, or have gained more extensive celebrity than Mr. Coxe. He who reads for amusement, and he who reads for information; the man of leisure, the man of business, and the politician, will all be in some degree gratified by an attentive perusal of his works.

His travels in Switzerland, a country favourable for local description, and where freedom, independence, and competence are the lot of almost every rank, as they are certainly his most popular publication, so we have selected them to grace our volumes. But while we are anxious to present our readers with a fair view of their principal contents, it is a duty we owe the amiable author to confess, that we feel ourselves incapable, within the limits prescribed, to do justice to the multifarious matter they contain; and we are rather ambitious to excite curiosity to peruse the original, than to satisfy it by our present abridgment.

It would, indeed, be an ill compliment to one of the most perfect books of travels in the English language not to include it in our plan; and we are sure, the author is too liberal minded to suppose that we wish to infringe on his rights and his labours.

These travels are addressed, in the form of letters, to William Melmoth, Esq. a gentleman of equal distinction in the literary world; and were performed in company with Lord Herbert, now Earl Pembroke, and Colonel Floyd; and the same scenes were afterwards revisited with the present Mr. Whitbread, &c.

The first letter is dated from Doneschingen, July 21, 1776. This town is the principal residence of the prince of Furstenberg; and in the court yard of his palace the Danube takes its rise. Some small springs, bubbling from the ground, form a basin of about thirty feet square, and from this small beginning issues the mighty Danube, which soon after receives several tributary streams of greater consequence than the original.

Next day, they arrived at Schaffhausen in Switzerland. The cleanliness of the houses, and of the people, is peculiarly striking; and there are several other strong outlines which distinguish this happy race from the neighbouring nations.

Schaffhausen is situated on the northern bank of the Rhine. It is a tolerably well built town, and owes its origin to the interruption of the navigation of that river, by the cataract at Lauffen. It is the capital of a canton, and has been a member of the Helvetic confederacy ever since 1501. Though of small extent, its population is supposed to amount to thirty thousand souls.

The bridge over the Rhine, at this place, is of
2 singular

singular architecture. The river here is extremely rapid, and several stone bridges had been carried away; when a carpenter of Appenzel offered to throw a wooden bridge across the stream, which is near four hundred feet wide. The distance of the middle pier from the shore towards the town is one hundred and seventy-two feet, and from the other side one hundred and ninety-three, apparently making two arches of surprising width, and forming a beautiful distant perspective. The weight of a man makes it vibrate under him, and yet waggons, heavily laden, pass without danger. Its mechanism, though simple, is most extraordinary; and is a proof of the abilities of the man who projected and executed it. This bridge was finished in less than three years, at an expence of about eight thousand pounds sterling.

Soon after their arrival, they set out to visit the fall of the Rhine at Lauffen. It is about a league distant, over a picturesque and agreeable country.

Having advanced to the edge of the precipice, they looked down on the cataract, and saw the river tumbling over the sides of the rock with amazing impetuosity. They then descended, and stood close to the fall. A scaffolding is erected in the very spray of this tremendous cataract, and upon the most sublime point of view. The scene exceeds description. About one hundred feet from the scaffolding, two crags rise in the middle of the fall, the nearest of which is perforated by the constant action of the water, and allows a vent for a part of the tumultuous waves.

Having crossed the river, at a place where it was extremely agitated, they enjoyed another

perspective of this grand scene. The most striking objects are the castle of Lauffen, erected on the very edge of the precipice, a church and some cottages, and a cluster of the latter near the fall. In the back ground, are rocks skirted with vines, or tufted with pendent woods, a beautiful little hamlet, the great mass of water, and the two crags already mentioned, having their tops sprinkled with shrubs, and dividing the cataract into three principal parts.

Below the fall, the river widens considerably : at the spot of precipitation, it appears to be about three hundred feet broad. As to its perpendicular height, travellers vary much ; but Mr. Coxe thinks, that between fifty and sixty feet may be near the truth.

It is certain, this astonishing cataract has undergone several important changes ; and, it is probable, that, in the lapse of years, the two crags, which now rise in the middle of the stream, will be undermined and carried away.

After quitting Schaffhausen, they crossed the Rhine at Dieffenhoffen, and having continued their route to Stein, along the bank of that river, they hired a boat from thence to carry them to Constance.

A fine breeze wafted them to the island of Reichenau, about three miles long and one broad ; and containing about one thousand six hundred inhabitants, subject to the bishop of Constance. In the evening, they arrived at the last-named city, whose situation is most delightful, between the two lakes on the Rhine.

Mr. Coxe says, he was much affected at the solitary appearance of a town, once so flourishing and celebrated. A dead stillness reigns throughout :

out: grass grows in the principal streets; and, in a word, it is only the shadow of what it once was, though it still contains about three thousand inhabitants.

They paid a visit to the chamber where the council of Constance was held in 1415; and gratified themselves by sitting down in the same chairs which were once occupied by Pope John XXIII. and the Emperor Sigismond. By a sentence of this council, that celebrated reformer, John Huss, was burnt as a heretic, though he had the emperor's safe conduct. The house is still shewn in which he was seized, on which is fixed his head, carved in stone, with a German inscription under, but now almost defaced. From the top of the cathedral is a superb view of the town, and of the two lakes, with the rugged Alps of Tyrol and Appenzel, topped with everlasting snow.

Our author thinks it probable, that Constance may again become a commercial town, from the permission, granted by the emperor, to the emigrants of Geneva, of settling there, with considerable privileges. He justly considers this as the triumph of reason and religion over bigotry and intolerance.

On the 25th, they set out from Constance. The Superior Lake, or Boden See, is about fifteen leagues in length, and six in its greatest breadth. The environs consist of gently rising hills, sprinkled with a variety of towns, villages, and monasteries. The form of the lake is somewhat oval, and the water has a greenish hue.

Some writers affirm, that the Rhine passes through the lake without mingling their waters; but Mr. Coxe sees no reason for the adoption of

this opinion. This lake, like all others in Switzerland, is deeper in summer than in winter, a circumstance originating from the melting of the snow on the neighbouring mountains. It abounds in various kinds of fish; some of which are very valuable, and of great magnitude.

Next day, they reached St. Gallen, and from thence walked to Appenzel. The country is singularly wild and romantic, consisting of a continued series of hills and dales, valleys, and mountains, the tops of which are crowned with luxuriant pasturage; and the whole track is populous to an inconceivable degree.

The abbot and town of St. Gallen are both allies of the Swiss cantons, and each enjoys the privilege of sending deputies to the general diet. The abbot has an extensive territory, chiefly peopled with Catholics; but the town, over which his influence once extended, is now entirely Protestant. It is in a flourishing state, from the industry of its inhabitants, and their successful application to trade and manufactures.

The library belonging to the abbey contains several valuable manuscripts, principally relative to the reformation in Germany and Switzerland. To this library we owe Petronius Arbiter, Silius Italicus, Valerius Flaccus, and Quintilian, copies of which were first discovered in 1413. It was formerly extremely rich in literary treasures; but many of them are now lost or removed.

Appenzel is an independent state, though formerly subject to St. Gallen. It was admitted into the Helvetic confederacy in 1513. Its inhabitants are partly Catholics, partly Protestants, under separate jurisdictions, but united for general purposes of policy and defence.

The

The flourishing state of the cotton manufactory has rendered many persons, in the Protestant districts, easy, if not affluent, in their circumstances. Our author, however, thinks the machinery used in Switzerland, for spinning and preparing cotton cloth, far inferior to that in England.

Appenzel contains no fortified town; but only two or three open burghs, of which Appenzel is the largest in the Catholic district; and Trogen, Undevil, and Herisau in the Protestant. The whole canton, however, is almost one continuous village, each cottage being surrounded by a little domain, which generally contains every rural convenience within itself.

The original simplicity of the pastoral life is still visible among a majority of the inhabitants; and Mr. Coxe says, he saw several venerable figures, with long beards, that resembled the pictures of the ancient patriarchs. The natives of this canton, as is common in democracies, possess a natural frankness, and peculiar tone of equality, which arise from a consciousness of independence. They also display a fund of original humour, a quickness of repartee, and rude sallies of wit, which enliven their conversation.

Near Appenzel they observed an old man, with venerable white hair covering his shoulders, in the dress of a substantial farmer, who enquired, in the tone of civil authority, who they were; and upon their asking of their guide who this person was, they found he was Landamman, or chief of the republic. Happy people, exclaims our author, the nature of whose country, and the constitution of whose government are equally inimical to the introduction of luxury!

As there was a scarcity of horses on their leaving Appenzel, Mr. Coxe preferred walking. Having traversed the canton for about a league, over a continued range of mountains, dotted with cottages and cultivated spots, they arrived at its boundary, when the scene suddenly changed to a wild forest of pines. The road was scarcely three feet broad, and, in general, difficult to pass.

At Oberied they engaged a cart for Salets. The roads being rough and stony, in such a vehicle they could not be much at their ease; but the evening being fine, and the moon shining exceedingly bright, their journey was not altogether unpleasant.

Next morning, they continued their route in the same carriage, which was so small, that they were completely wedged in; and having once taken their places, it was impossible to stir. The day was hot; but the country through which they passed, at the slow rate of three miles an hour, was still so picturesque and beautiful, that they forgot the partial inconveniences of equipage and heat.

From Trivaback, a small village on the Rhine, they walked to Sargans, the capital of a bailliage of the same name. They arrived late at Wallenstadt, a town incorporated with it, but enjoying several distinct privileges. It forms a link of the communication between Germany and Italy, through the country of the Grisons; and is frequently resorted to by merchants.

The lake of Wallenstadt is about twelve miles long and two broad, and is environed by high mountains, except towards the east and west. From this exposure, a breeze generally blows from those two quarters at different periods of the day, which

which much facilitates the transportation of merchandise.

The scenery of the lake affords an endless variety of beautiful and romantic views. On the side of Glarus, the mountains are chiefly cultivated, and enriched with woods; while the Alps behind are covered with snow. On the other side, for the most part, the rocks are grotesque, craggy, and inaccessible; yet even here are some fertile spots of land, reclaimed by human industry from original sterility. Numberless waterfalls, occasioned by the melting of the snows, devolve from the sides of the hills, and enter the lake by different courses, and with different degrees of velocity and noise.

Glarus is the last in rank of the eight ancient cantons, which enjoy several superior privileges to the five remaining ones, that afterwards courted their alliance. The people of this canton were invaded by the Austrians in 1388, with such a force, as it was supposed would render resistance vain. It was then that three hundred and fifty troops of Glarus, assisted by thirty Switzers, opposed the whole Austrian force, consisting of fifteen thousand men. The former were advantageously posted on the mountains, and having compelled their invaders to retreat, by a shower of stones; the inhabitants seized the moment of confusion, and fell on them with such impetuosity, that they broke their ranks, and after an immense slaughter, drove the remainder from the canton.

Such unequal combats are not singular in the Helvetic annals, and they render the classical engagements of Marathon and Plataea perfectly credible. The same love of independence, the
same

same dread of slavery, the same attachment to their country, animated the respective nations to similar efforts of heroism.

The government of Glarus is wholly democratical: every person at the age of sixteen has a vote in the general assembly, which is annually held in an open plain. This assembly ratifies new laws, imposes contributions, enters into alliances, and makes peace or war. The Landamman is the chief of the republic, and is chosen alternately from the Protestants and Catholics.

Cattle, cheese, and butter constitute the principal wealth of the canton. It is computed that ten thousand head of large cattle, and four thousand sheep are pastured in the mountains, belonging to this district, during the summer season. Among the exports, slates are no inconsiderable article. These quarries once supplied Great Britain with school and counting-house slates, but our own country is now found to be sufficiently rich in this kind of produce.

On the 30th of July they made an excursion towards the extremity of the canton. It is entirely enclosed by the Alps, except towards the north; and this is the only entrance, unless during the summer months. At this pass, the canton reaches from the banks of the Linth, to the farthest extremity of its Alps, about thirty miles; forming a valley, which gradually narrows till it is scarcely more than a market shot in breadth at the burgh of Glarus. It afterwards opens in the same manner, and about a league farther, it is divided by the Freyberg mountains.

The scenery of this narrow, populous valley, through which they passed, reminded Mr. Coxé of Matlock, in Derbyshire. It is of the same cast,
but

but infinitely more wild, more varied, and more sublime. The Linth is much broader, and more rapid than the Derwent, and the highest eminences of the peak are only mole-hills, compared to the Alps of Glarus.

They several times crossed the Linth, which rushes with the impetuosity of a torrent, and at length arrived at an amphitheatre of mountains, where the valley terminated. The view here was awfully grand, every feature that entered into the composition of the landscape was vast, and wholly Alpine. They admired the sublime horror of the scenery for some time; and then made a hearty meal on some excellent bread, honey, butter, and milk, which a neighbouring cottage supplied.

“ Nothing,” says Mr. Coxe, “ delights me so much as the inside of a Swiss cottage: all those I have hitherto visited, convey the liveliest image of cleanliness, ease, and simplicity; and cannot but strongly impress, on the observer, a most pleasing conviction of the peasants happiness. The houses are generally built of wood, large, solid, and compact, with penthouse roofs, that extend far beyond the area of the foundation.

Their landlord, at Glarus, was an open-hearted honest fellow, who brought his pint of wine, and sat down to converse with his guests, without the least ceremony. This freedom, being neither the effect of impertinent curiosity, nor fawning officiousness, but the impulse of a mind conscious of its natural equality, and unconstrained by arbitrary distinctions, was highly pleasing. For who would not prefer the simple demeanour of unsophisticated nature to the false refinements of artificial manners!

It

It was impossible for travellers of taste, when in this vicinity, not to make a pilgrimage to the abbey of Einsiedlin, which contains the miraculous image of the Virgin Mary, so much the object of devotion among good Catholics. The ridiculous tales which are spread of the origin and rise of this abbey, are so many melancholy instances of the credulity of the darker ages; and if they are still in credit, it is because prejudice has become habitual, and superstition gains such strong hold in the minds of men.

The church of the abbey is a large and magnificent building, but loaded with superfluous ornaments. In an aisle, near the entrance, is a small elegant marble chapel of the Corinthian order, which forms the shrine of the virgin. On the outside, an angel supports the following *comfortable* inscription:

Hic est plena remissio peccatorum omnium a culpâ et pænâ.

Within is the image of the Virgin, which vies with the lady of Loretto, in *beauty* of countenance,—her face, as well as that of the child, being *black*. She is richly apparelled, however, and changes her vestments every week.

The valuables in the treasury are immense, consisting of the rich offerings of devotees, and many relicks sumptuously ornamented. The miracles which the virgin has performed are said to be infinite; and they are as well attested as Catholic miracles generally are.

In this place there is a considerable traffic in rosaries, crosses, and images; but amidst this superstitious trumpery, which are an insult on human reason, our author was pleased to find a
good

good library, containing some fine editions of the classics.

The same evening they walked to Rapperschwyl. By the way they had a fine view of the lake of Zurich, and of the adjacent country. The prospect was heightened by the solemn stillness of the evening, the pellucid surface of the lake, and the tints of the setting sun. As they approached the lake, the rising moon formed another scene indeed, but not less affecting than the former.

A bridge, one thousand seven hundred paces long, is thrown over the narrowest part of the lake. The town is pleasantly situated on a neck of land, and is under the protection of Zurich, Berne, and Glarus. Over the gates is the subsequent inscription: *Amicis Tutoribus floret libertas.*

Next day they were sumptuously entertained at dinner, by the Capuchin friars at Rapperschwyl. It was one of their great festivals, and they regaled them with every variety of fish, which the lake and the neighbouring rivers supplied. The convent enjoys a romantic situation, on the edge of the water; and the cells of the monks, though small, are not inconvenient; but cleanliness, which gives a charm to the humblest accommodations, is here as much disregarded, as if religion and filth were inseparable. What a strange idea of sanctity! as if dirt could be acceptable to the Deity.

After dinner, they set out for Zurich by water. The lake is about ten leagues long, and one broad. Its borders are thickly studded with villages and towns; and the adjacent country is in a high state of cultivation. To the south of the lake rise the stupendous mountains of Schweitz

and Glarus, which present the most lively and diversified scenery.

Zuric, to its honour, was the first town in Switzerland that separated from the church of Rome, being converted by the meek and moderate Zuinglius, a man who did credit to Christianity, by his love of peace and hatred to strife. Far from supporting his peculiar dogmas with an intolerant zeal, he was persuaded, that, provided Christians could agree in the most essential articles, they ought meekly to bear with any difference on points controvertible, and which do not necessarily influence morals.

The canton of Zuric abounds in corn, wine, and excellent pasture. The population amounts to nearly one hundred and seventy-five thousand souls, of whom more than ten thousand reside in the capital. This great number of inhabitants, in proportion to the size of the canton, is owing to its trade; from which two-thirds of the people derive a subsistence. Thread, silk, and linen, are the principal manufactures.

The sovereign power resides exclusively in the burghesses of the town, who consist of about two thousand; and into this number, a new citizen has not been admitted during these last hundred and fifty years.

The burghers, beside the advantage of electing their magistrates, and of conducting the administration of affairs, enjoy the sole right of commerce. All strangers, and even subjects, being excluded from establishing manufactures in any part of the canton.

It is just subject of regret, that in Berne, as in most other states of Switzerland, there is no precise code of criminal law. The institutions of Charles V.
or

or the Caroline code, are ostensibly followed; but on account of their obsolete usages and extreme severity, the sentence is ultimately left to the determination of the magistracy. Hence, with the most perfect integrity, and the most upright intentions, it is almost impossible to avoid being biased by friendship and family connections.

Every judge, of delicacy and honour, would undoubtedly be pleased to administer justice according to known laws, and to be restrained from listening to party sollicitations, and the impulses of private feelings.

The legislative authority is vested by the burghers in the council of two hundred, who are drawn from the thirteen tribes into which the burghers are distributed, and comprise the senate, or little council. This senate, including the two burgomasters, has jurisdiction in all civil and criminal cases. In the latter there is no appeal from their decision; nor any possibility of obtaining any reversal or mitigation. Such an institution ought necessarily to preclude severity of punishment; and could never be admitted in a state, where very disproportionate crimes are obnoxious to the same punishment.

The canton of Zurich is divided into districts or bailliages, governed by bailiffs, nominated by the sovereign council. These subordinate officers have considerable power; but the improper exercise of it is controuled by their superiors.

The city of Zurich is seated at the northern extremity of the lake, and occupies both sides of the rapid and transparent Limmat. Its environs are most delightful; consisting of an amphitheatre of hills, gradually sloping down to the water, embellished with plantations of vines and pastures,

tures, intermixed with innumerable villas, cottages, and hamlets. On the west is a bold and gloomy ridge of hills, stretching towards the Albis, and that chain of mountains which gradually unites with the Alps.

The town is divided into two parts, the most ancient division being surrounded with the same battlements and towers, which existed in the thirteenth century. The suburbs are strengthened by modern fortifications.

The public walk is pleasantly situated on a lawn, at the junction of the Limmat and the Sihl, and is shaded by a double row of lime trees.

The inhabitants carry on various manufactures, the principal of which are those of linens, cottons, muslins, and silk handkerchiefs. The streets are generally narrow; and the houses and public buildings accord rather with the simple and plain manners of the people, than with our ideas of a capital.

The environs are extremely populous, and are the principal residence of manufacturers and their labourers. This is no less conducive to health than pleasure; for it cannot fail to be injurious to both, to have numbers of artisans cooped up within the narrow limits of cities.

The manners of the citizens are generally simple. Dinner is usually served at twelve; in the afternoon the gentlemen assemble in small societies in the town, during winter, and at their respective villas in summer. They frequently smoke, and partake of wine, cake, fruit, and other refreshments.

The women, for the most part, are engaged in domestic vocations, or devoted to the instruction of their children. They are not fond of visiting;
and

and when they go out, they assemble in select parties, to which only a few men, and those chiefly the nearest relations, are admitted. This reserve, however, among the ladies, begins to give way to a more social intercourse.

Sumptuary laws, as well as those against immorality, are here well observed. The former may, indeed, be carried into execution among a people far gone in vicious refinement; but the severest penalties will be incapable of restraining the latter, without some degree of moral purity in the people.

At Zurich, the original Swiss spirit of independence prevails more than in any of the other large towns in the confederacy; and this is still considered as the most patriotic and upright of all the thirteen cantons.

The militia of Zurich, of every description, amounts to about thirty thousand effective men. The arsenal is well supplied with arms and ammunition. Here is to be seen the two hundred swords and massy armour of the old Swiss warriors; and the bow and arrow with which William Tell is said to have cleft the apple placed on the head of his son.

The ecclesiastical affairs are under the Supreme direction of the senate, assisted by fourteen deans, chosen by a synod composed of the whole clergy of the canton. The principal ministers and professors in the town constitute, in conjunction with several magistrates and assessors, an ecclesiastical and academical council. To this committee the deans have recourse in all arduous circumstances; and it often determines lesser affairs, or refers cases of importance to the senate.

The benefices in this canton are, in no instance, higher than one hundred and forty pounds per annum, and often as low as thirty; but a clergyman of learning and merit, who resides in the town, has commonly a professorship added to his function.

There are several excellent public establishments, such as an orphan-house, and a chirurgical seminary, both extremely well conducted.

The public education is under the immediate protection of government. The office of a professor gives rank and estimation; and is often held by a member of the senate, or of the great council. The learned languages, divinity, natural history, mathematics, and in short, every species of polite learning, as well as the abstruse sciences, are here taught at a small expence, and with abundant care.

In consequence of this laudable attention to form the minds of youth, and to elicit the flame of genius, no town in Switzerland has produced more eminent men than Zurich. Among others, since the reformation, may be enumerated Zuinglius, and Bullinger, Conrad Gesner, Hottinger, Simler, Spon, Scheutzer, Heydegger, Breitinger, Bodmer, Hertzels, and Solomon Gesner. The latter is the well-known author of the *Death of Abel*, and several pastorals; which, for delicate and elegant simplicity, are universally admired. They display a mind of the nicest sensibility, and warmed with the finest sentiments in passions and morals.

But in this literary galaxy, none have gained more extensive reputation than Lavater, a clergyman of Zurich, and a famous physiognomist. Our author visited this celebrated man, and was
charmed

charmed with the vivacity of his conversation, the amenity of his manners, and the singularity and animation of his style, which have contributed more to spread his principles than sound reasoning and depth of learning.

That particular passions have a certain effect on particular features, is evident to every observer; but that, by contemplating the countenance, we can infallibly discover the mental qualities, is an hypothesis liable to many exceptions. Nevertheless, Lavater, like a true enthusiast, carries his theory much farther; for he not only pretends to discover the characters and passions by the features, the complexion, the form, and motion; but he also draws some inferences, of the same kind, from the hand writing.

Lavater, however, has not confined himself merely to physiognomy. He has composed hymns and national songs, which are much admired for their simplicity. He has also published numerous works on sacred subjects; but it must be confessed, that the same fanciful turn, which displays itself in his physiognomical theories, is likewise visible in what ought to be under the influence of sober reason, or the guidance of revelation.

Mr. Coxe makes honourable mention of several other literary characters he met with at Zurich. The library and cabinet of John Gesner, professor of physics, and a descendant of Conrad Gesner, particularly pleased him. The proficiency of this gentleman, in the study of nature, has been amply testified by the repeated acknowledgments of Haller, whom he accompanied in several botanical excursions through Switzerland.

The public library at Zurich contains about twenty-five thousand volumes, and a few curious manuscripts.

manuscripts. Among the latter, the following chiefly attracted the attention of Mr. Coxe. The original copy of Quintilian, found in the library of St. Gallen, from which the first edition of that great rhetorician was published; the Psalms in the Greek tongue, written on violet-coloured parchment, supposed to have come from the Vatican at Rome; several manuscripts of Zuinglius, which evince the indefatigable industry of that celebrated reformer; and three Latin letters from Lady Jane Grey to Bullinger, in 1551, 2, 3. These letters, written with her own hand, breathe a spirit of unaffected piety, and prove the uncommon progress which this unfortunate, but accomplished, woman had made in various branches of literature, though only sixteen years old.

The library is also rich in the best editions of the classics, and particularly in the early impressions.

Our author likewise mentions the library of the cathedral, belonging to the Caroline college, which contains several manuscripts, and ancient printed books of great rarity; the collections of Simler and Heydegger, which no lover of learning would pass without notice.

From Zurich our author made an excursion round the lake, in company with several gentlemen of the place. They passed through vineyards and corn-fields to Kuffnach, a small village on the eastern side of the lake, which contains about one thousand seven hundred souls.

Having reposed themselves here, and accepted some refreshments from a gentleman of the place, they continued their walk through similar scenes, and enjoyed, during the greatest part of the way, the most agreeable shade of forest trees, while the scattered

scattered cottages, villages, and picturesque villas and churches, added to the beauty of the ever-changing scenery.

At Meile they embarked and crossed the lake, when new beauties arrested their attention; but it is impossible to do them justice in our description. They landed again at Weddenschweil, on the west side of the lake. Near this last place is a cascade, which bursting from surrounding trees, falls a few feet on the ridge of rock, and then precipitates itself in mid air for fifty feet, without touching the sides of the precipice. The effect was peculiarly striking; nor could they sufficiently admire the amphitheatre of rock, the beeches suspended on its top and sides, the sunbeams playing on the falling waters, and the noise of the torrent, contrasting with the mild and tranquil beauties of the lake they had just quitted.

They passed the night at Richliswick, most agreeably situated. The road sometimes conducted through meadows, sometimes lay close to the water's edge, and scarcely could they advance one hundred steps without passing the habitation of man. They found good accommodation at the inn; and next morning embarked and sailed for the island of Ufnau, which they reached in two hours. This is a pleasant island, belonging to the abbey of Einsidlin. It has only a single house, two barns, and a chapel, in which mass is said twice a year. Within is the tomb of St. Alderic, who built a hermitage here, to which he retired. He died in 1473, and, according to an inscription, "was fed with bread from heaven, and walked on the surface of the waters."

This

This island is sometimes named from Hutten, who, after a life of almost unparalleled vicissitudes, died in this obscure spot, in 1523, in the thirty-sixth year of his age. He was as remarkable for his genius and learning, as for his turbulence and presumption.

Having reimbarked, they soon landed again at Rapperschwyl, already mentioned; and continued ascending amidst hanging inclosures of pasturage and corn, commanding the most enchanting views.

About mid day they arrived at Grunengen, a small burgh, and capital of a bailliage. The bailiff resides in the castle, which stands on an elevated rock, with an extensive prospect, of various features.

From Grunengen they pursued their course through lanes, fields, and inclosures, midst a fertile track. As the setting sun was sinking below the horizon, they frequently looked back upon the distant Alps, whose lower parts were no longer illumined by the orb of day, while their summits were

Arrayed with reflected purple and gold,
And colours dipt in heav'n. MILTON.

They took up their lodgings for the night at Ustar, and, with the rising sun, walked to the castle. It is proudly seated on an elevated rock, planted to its very summit with vines; and commands a most extensive view, in which Jura, and the mountains of the Black Forest, are prominent features.

From Ustar they crossed the fields to Grieffen, pleasantly situated on a small promontory, embosomed in a wood; and landed at the northern extremity of the lake of Grieffen. Proceeding
through

through a country uniformly delightful and picturesque, they stopped at the parsonage of a small village. The clergyman's two daughters, about fifteen or sixteen years of age, politely brought milk and cherries for their refreshment. They were neatly dressed in straw hats, with their shift sleeves tied above the elbows, after the simple manner of the peasant girls.

From this retreat of innocence and simplicity * they ascended about a mile, when the view of Zurich, the lake, and environs, burst on their enraptured senses.

An expedition to the summit of Lagerberg was no less agreeable than the former. The fields were enlivened with numerous parties employed in harvest work. Oxen were chiefly used for draught, harnessed like horses. This practice has been partially introduced into England; and were it more general, which, it is hoped in time it will become, it would not only lessen the expence of farming, but diminish the price of provisions.

A few miles from Zurich, they passed through the village of Affholteren, and gently ascended to New Regensberg, which stands on an elevation at the foot of the Lagerberg. The castle was formerly of great strength, and frequently defied the attacks of Zurich.

The rock, on which Regensberg is built, forms

* It is impossible to record the easy manner in which strangers are entertained in those simple regions, without imprecating that vicious and expensive refinement, which has taken place in our own island. Here all hospitality is destroyed by the introduction of luxury, which is equally inimical to society and philanthropy.

the eastern extremity of that vast chain of mountains, known by the general appellation of Jura.

They now advanced through cultivated inclosures, and afterwards through forests of pine, fir, and beech, till they reached the highest point of Lagerberg, on which stands a signal house. From this spot, which overlooks the whole country, is one of the most extensive and uninterrupted prospects to be seen in Switzerland.

The beauty and sublimity of the landscapes detained them here till the close of evening, when they began to descend, and did not arrive at Zurich before the gloom of night had overspread the horizon.

Our author next set out for Winterthur, distant about twelve miles from Zurich, a town, which, though situated in the canton, retains its own laws, has its own magistrates, and preserves its original independence. It was formerly governed by its own counts, but at last fell under the protection of Zurich.

The principal manufactures of this place are muslins, printed cottons, and cloths. Some vitriol works are also carried on here with considerable success. The inhabitants amount to about two thousand.

In the vicinity is the site of the ancient Vitorodurum, where a great number of Roman coins and medals have been dug up. No other remains of its former consequence subsist, but the foundations of the ancient walls.

The castle of Kyburgh, towering on the summit of an eminence which overlooks Winterthur and the adjacent district, is a picturesque object; and is signalized in the history of this country, during the turbulent period which preceded and followed the

the interregnum of the empire. Part of this fabric is ancient, and part is modern. A bailiff resides here, who possesses very extensive powers.

From Winterthur they travelled to Frauenfeld, a small town, the capital of Thurgau. It contains about one thousand inhabitants, and is chiefly remarkable for being the place where, since 1712, the deputies of the Swiss cantons assemble in general diet.

Instead of following the usual route by land, from Zurich to Basle, they proceeded the greatest part of the way by water. They embarked in the afternoon on the Limmat, the navigation of which has been represented as dangerous; but this can only happen during the melting of the snows, or after violent rains, unless occasioned by the negligence or inexperience of the boatmen.

The boat in which they sailed was flat-bottomed and long, and was rowed, or rather steered, by three watermen, who advanced at the rate of from six to ten miles an hour. The banks of the Limmat were at first flat, but afterwards rose into hills, clothed with pasture and wood, or divided into vineyards: at last they became quite perpendicular, and were fringed to the water's edge with pendent trees.

About a mile from Baden, they shot under the bridge of Wettingen with such velocity, that in the moment Mr. Coxe was admiring its bold projection on one side, he instantly found himself on the other. This admirable piece of mechanism is of wood, two hundred and forty feet in length, and suspended above twenty feet from the surface of the water. It was the last work of the self-taught artist, who constructed the bridge at Schaffhausen.

They landed at Baden, which derives its name from the neighbouring warm baths, mentioned by the ancients, under the names of *Aquæ* and *Thermæ Helveticæ*.

Baden was a Roman fortress; and after being long subject to the German empire, at last became a member of the Helvetic confederacy.

The inhabitants elect their own magistrates, and have their respective judicial courts. The county, or bailliage, contains about twenty-four thousand persons, of both sexes and all ages.

From Baden they proceeded through an agreeable and sylvan country, for some way along the banks of the Limmat, and soon after crossed the Reufs into the canton of Berne. Having traversed a plain, they arrived at the warm baths of Schintznach, celebrated for being the place where the Helvetic society first assembled. This society, composed of some of the most learned men in Switzerland, both of the catholic and reformed religion, exerted itself to extend the spirit of toleration, and to lessen that antipathy which subsisted between the members of the two persuasions. The meetings of this liberal association are now transferred to Olten in Soleure.

In the vicinity of the baths, on a lofty eminence, stand the remains of the castle of Hapsburgh, to which they ascended through an ancient beech wood. The ruins consist of an ancient tower of massy stones, and part of a small building of a much more modern date.

This castle was erected in the beginning of the eleventh century, and after being the birth-place and property of Rhodolph of Hapsburgh, who was elevated to the imperial throne, by various revolutions, has now gone to decay; and is now only inhabited by the family of a peasant.

It

It commands a boundless view over hills and dales, plains and forests, rivers and lakes, towns and villages, mountains and alps, "emblematic," says our author, "of that extent of power, to which the talents of one man, who derived his title from this castle, raised himself and his descendants,"—alluding to Rhodolph Count of Hapsburgh, born in 1218, who became emperor and founder of the house of Austria.

A spot so remarkable could not fail to impress the mind of a sensible traveller with many reflections on the mutability of fortune, and the elevations and depressions which families are often doomed to experience. For a simple Swiss baron to reach the imperial dignity, was such a transition, as even ambition could scarcely have foreseen; and for the descendants of that emperor to be driven from their hereditary domains by a few small republics, in little more than a century after, is a phenomenon in the history of man, that must have happened to be believed.

Having satisfied their curiosity at the castle of Hapsburgh, the cradle of the house of Austria, they descended into the plain of Konigsfelden, to a convent of the same name, built by the empress Elizabeth on the spot where her husband Albert was assassinated. This murder was committed on the 1st of May 1308, in the open day, by the emperor's nephew, in the sight of his son Leopold and the rest of his court, who had not yet passed the Reufs; and who, though witnesses to the horrid deed, could not get up in time to rescue the emperor.

The convent, or abbey, built on the very spot, was richly endowed; but at the reformation, the lands were secularized, and part of the building

became the residence of a bailiff, part was converted into an hospital, and the rest was suffered to fall to ruin.

Many of the cells still exist in their original state, and the chapel is still entire, but no longer used for divine service. The painted glass in the windows represent various histories of the Old Testament, with the portraits of Elizabeth, and Agnes, her daughter, queen of Hungary, who assumed the veil, and lived and died here; of the emperor Albert, whose assassination gave rise to the endowment, and of his five sons.

Several of the imperial line were buried in this chapel; but their bones were a few years since removed to the Abbey of St. Blaise, in the Black Forest, where they were deposited with great pomp, under magnificent monuments.

Near Konigsfelden is the small village of Windisch, supposed to occupy the site of the Vindonissa of Tacitus; certain it is, from many fragments of antiquity discovered here, that this must have been the station of a large Roman colony. The following quotation from the eloquent author of the *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* is too beautiful and too appropriate to be omitted here. "Within the ancient walls of Vindonissa," says he, "the castle of Hapsburgh, the Abbey of Konigsfeld, and the town of Bruck have successively arisen. The philosophic traveller may compare the monuments of Roman conquest, of feudal or Austrian tyranny, of monkish superstition, and of industrious freedom. If he be truly a philosopher, he will applaud the merit and happiness of his own time."

Next morning they embarked on the Aar, which, after having received some tributary streams, and risen to a river of some magnitude, falls

falls into the Rhine. Its waters, which are of a silvery hue, are, for a long way after their junction, distinguished from the sea-green colour of the Rhine.

In point of picturesque beauty, the banks of the Rhine are infinitely superior to those of the Aar. They consist of steep acclivities, feathered with wood, gentle slopes bordered with vines, forest scenes or pasture, and exhibit a continued succession of towns and villages.

The stream carried them eighteen miles in three hours, and they disembarked at Lauffenburgh, where the Rhine forms a cataract not destitute of beauty, though greatly inferior to the fall near Schaffhausen. As Mr. Coxe stood on the crags of the northern shore, the principal objects were a high bridge, partly open, partly covered; a row of houses, with an old ruined castle, crowning a summit that overhung the water; a perspective of woods and meadows through the arcades of the bridge; and the river dashing over its craggy bed in a sloping cataract.

About half a mile below the fall they re-embarked; and found the waters still so much agitated that it required all the skill and dexterity of the pilot to prevent their little vessel being dashed against the shelving rocks. As they approached Basle, the stream became gradually more tranquil, and they landed, highly delighted with their expedition.

When they arrived at Basle, it was about noon; but our author was surprised to find that all the clocks in the town struck one. On enquiry, he was informed that they constantly go an hour faster than the real time, for which absurdity various reasons are assigned. One is, that during

the council of Basle the clocks were put forward, that the lazy, indolent cardinals and bishops might arrive in time. Others maintain, that a conspiracy being formed to assassinate the magistrates at midnight, one of the burgomasters, who had notice of the design, advanced the town clock an hour; by which the conspirators, thinking they had missed the appointed time, were disconcerted and induced to retire; and as a perpetual memorial of this happy deliverance, the clocks were always kept in the same advanced state. The third, and last reason, is the most probable, that the sun dial on the outside of the choir of the cathedral, by which the clocks are regulated, not being properly set, occasions a variation from the true time of forty-five minutes.

However this may be, the inhabitants of Basle are so attached to this whimsical custom of getting the start of time, that though various attempts have been made to remove the absurdity, the people have constantly interfered to prevent an alteration; as if they thought their liberties would be lost, should their clocks agree with those of the rest of Europe. Indeed, long established customs, however ridiculous or unconfidential, are apt to make strong impressions on vulgar minds. Even in England, it was long before the people could be persuaded to reckon the year according to the general mode of computation, received in the other nations of Europe.

Basle enjoys a delightful situation on the banks of the Rhine, near the point where that noble stream makes a sudden bend to the north. It consists of two towns, united by a long bridge. It stands very favourably for commerce, an advantage which the inhabitants have turned to good account,

count, by establishing a number of manufactures, and carrying on an extensive trade.

The cathedral is an elegant Gothic pile; but strangely disfigured by a daubing of rose-coloured paint, spread over the whole edifice. It contains the ashes of several great and illustrious characters; among the rest, the venerable remains of Erasmus are deposited under a marble tomb. Few men have done more honour to learning than Erasmus, or have met with more distinguished applause from impartial posterity.

The university of Basle was formerly distinguished for the eminent persons it produced. The names of the Baughins, Buxtorf, Wetstien, the Bernoullis and Euler, are sufficient to mark its consequence. If it has declined from its original rank, it may be imputed to the casual mode of electing the professors.

The public library, though not very extensive, contains a choice and rare collection of early printed books, and some curious manuscripts.

In a suit of rooms, adjoining to this library, is a cabinet of petrifications, collected in the canton of Basle by Annoni; some ancient medals and gems; a few antiquities found at Augst; a large number of prints; and some original drawings and paintings by Holbein, who was a native of this town.

Among the works of Holbein, that display the vivacity of his fancy, may be mentioned the sketches which he drew, on perusing the Eulogium of Folly by Erasmus, on the margin of the present copy of that work, from the author. This curious volume is preserved in the library; and has lately been published in French, Latin, and German, with fac-similies of the original designs, engraved on wood.

The

The Dance of Death in the churchyard of the the predicans of the suburbs of St. John, though frequently ascribed to the pencil of Holbein, has been proved by good judges to be none of his. It is probable, however, that from this ancient painting, he took the first hint towards composing his famous drawings on the Dance of Death. They consist of forty-four pieces, and are now in the possession of Prince Gallitzin, once minister from the Empress of Russia to the court of Vienna. Mr. Coxe says he frequently saw those celebrated drawings, during his stay at Vienna, and particularly admired the variety of attitudes and characters in which the last mortal foe is represented.

Our author visited a small but pleasing collection of pictures, mostly of the Flemish and Dutch schools, belonging to M. Faesch, member of the great council. In the court-yard, before this gentleman's house, is a wooden statue of Rhodolph I. seated on a throne, and clothed with the imperial insignia. Underneath is the date of 1273, the era of that emperor's coronation. The rudeness of the sculpture renders it probable that it is the original of that great emperor, who was besieging Basle, when he received the unexpected news of his election. The gates were instantly thrown open; and he was admitted as a friend into that town, which had just before dreaded him as its most formidable enemy.

The supreme legislative power of Basle is vested in the great and little councils, consisting of three hundred members, and their united voice is without control. The senate, or little council, elected from the great, is composed of sixty persons; and to them the general administration of government is committed. The collective body of citizens

zens assemble only once a year ; when the magistrates publicly take an oath to maintain the constitution, and to preserve the liberties and immunities of the people. A reciprocal oath of obedience to the laws is administered to the citizens, in their respective tribes.

The meanest citizen is legally capacitated to be a member of the great council ; and by the singular mode of election may possibly be chosen. All ranks of citizens, save the members of the university, are eligible to fill up vacancies. The whole mass of the people is divided into eighteen tribes, each of which appoint twelve delegates to the great council ; and upon a vacancy, nominate six persons, one of whom is chosen by lot.

The reigning burgomaster and the great tribune appointed to be the drawers of this official lottery, both at the same instant draw a ticket from two separate bags ; and the candidate, whose name comes out at the same time with the ticket on which the employment is written, obtains the post.

But it is not only counsellors of state and the several magistrates that are chosen by lot ; even the professors of the university are elected in the same manner. Hence it has happened, that the chair of rhetoric has been assigned to a mathematician ; and the professorship of anatomy to an admirer of the belles lettres. The allotments are certainly ridiculous, and must tend to injure the credit of the university, not only in the eyes of the natives, but also of foreigners. Fortune in the distribution of her favours cannot possibly shew greater caprice than in similar instances.

The sumptuary laws are very strict at Basle. The use of carriages in the town is not indeed prohibited,

prohibited, as in some of the capitals of the confederacy; but no citizen is allowed to have a servant behind his carriage. Laws of this kind may sometimes be carried to an extravagant length; but in small republics, the principle is salutary.

So partial are the lower ranks to the enjoyments of their own country, that they seem to think true felicity is centred at Basle; and indeed the lower classes are no where more comfortable. Freedom is the equal lot of all, and the poorer are not tortured by the sight of luxury which they cannot reach, nor rendered miserable by an ostentatious display of wealth and grandeur. A happy simplicity of manners is universally prevalent; and it would excite a smile to enumerate all the articles which pass under the opprobrious name of luxuries.

In general the burghers sons receive an excellent education, which qualifies them for those offices which fortune may throw in their way. At the time our author was here, the treasurer was a baker, and had twice been appointed a candidate for the office of the great tribune.

The conduct of magistrates is no where more freely or severely canvassed than at Basle. Perhaps this privilege may be often extended beyond its proper limits; but it is the vital principle of liberty, not to control it; and without this, no free government can long survive. Restrain liberty of speech, and freedom is no more!

Basle is the largest, and seems once to have been the most populous of the Swiss towns. It is capable of containing one hundred thousand inhabitants, though now they are dwindled away to about fourteen thousand. The discouragements which foreigners are under, who are neither permitted

permitted to carry on any commerce, nor to follow any trade, and the jealousy the citizens shew, to keep all power in their own hands, have been the principal causes to hasten the decline of the place. The magistrates, indeed, are sensible of the impolitic restraints under which strangers labour; but large bodies of men are seldom actuated by such a generous spirit as to sacrifice personal and immediate advantages to the future welfare of the community.

During Mr. Coxe's stay at Basle, he was prompted by curiosity to visit the hospital and burying ground of St. James, not far from the town, near the small river Birs, celebrated for a desperate combat, in 1444, between the Swiss and the dauphin of France, afterwards Louis XI. Never was Swiss valour and intrepidity more signally displayed than on that memorable day. Fifteen hundred of them had the courage to oppose themselves to eight thousand of the enemy's cavalry; and though victory at last declared for the French, it cost them more than three times the number of their opposers.

Of the whole phalanx of the Swiss, only sixteen escaped from the field of battle; and these, in conformity to the old Spartan discipline, were branded with infamy, for not having sacrificed their lives in defence of their country. Among those who were desperately wounded, and left on the field of battle, only thirty-two were found alive. The names of many of these glorious patriots were carefully registered, and still remain on record.

Louis himself declared, that such another victory would ruin his army; and generously confessed, that he derived no other advantage from
it,

it, than to know and esteem Swiss valour. Accordingly this desperate conflict gave rise to their treaty with Charles II. the first they ever contracted with France.

The Swiss still talk of this famous action with an enthusiastic ardour. Every year the inhabitants of Basle form parties to an inn, near the scene of the engagement, in order to commemorate, in a red wine produced from some vineyards planted on the field of battle, the heroic deeds of their countrymen, who fell in such a noble contest. This wine, which they call the blood of the Swiss, is highly prized by the Basilians, though it has little to recommend it in point of flavour.

Not far from Basle are the ruins of Augaust Rauricorum, formerly a large Roman town, now dwindled away to a small village. Of its former grandeur nothing remains, save some marble columns and scattered fragments of pillars, with a circular range of walls on a rising ground, entirely covered with underwood. This was probably the theatre. Our author observed also some remains of the aqueducts which conveyed the water to the town from the distance of twelve miles.

Medals of the Roman emperors, from Augustus to Constantine, are frequently found in turning up the ground, amidst the ruins. Our author purchased one of Trajan and another of Albinus, from a labourer.

Mr. Coxe made an excursion to Mulhausen, a town in alliance with the Swiss cantons, though entirely surrounded by the dominions of France. It stands in a district of Alsace, about fifteen miles from Basle, in a fertile plain, at the bottom of a ridge of hills, not far from the Voges; and
its

its whole territory is comprised within a precinct of eight miles.

It was received into the Helvetic confederacy in 1515, by which its liberty and independence have been preserved, both from the encroachments of the empire and of France. The government is aristo-democratical. The supreme power resides in the great and little councils, consisting, together, of seventy-eight persons, drawn from the burghers, whose number amounts to seven hundred, distributed into six tribes. The inhabitants are of the reformed religion, and the town contains about six thousand souls, with about two thousand more in its little territory.

Though the greatest part of the dominions subject to the bishop of Basle, or, as the Protestants style him, the Prince of Porentru, is not comprised within the limits of Switzerland, yet as many of his subjects are comburghers with Berne, and under the protection of that republic, his territory is usually included in all the topographical accounts of the cantons.

Our author made several excursions into this bishopric, and informed himself as to its political and local circumstances. The sovereign of this country is chosen by the chapter of eighteen canons, resident at Arlesheim, and confirmed by the pope. He is a prince of the German empire, and does homage to the emperor for that part of his territory which lies within the circle of the Upper Rhine.

The form of government is a limited monarchy; the bishop being bound, on all important occasions, to consult his chapter. His subjects are partly Protestants, partly Catholics. The Protestants are chiefly seated in the valley of Munster,

ter, and to the south of Pierre Pertuis. Their number is calculated at fifteen thousand; that of the Catholics at thirty-five thousand.

Porentru, the capital of the bishop's dominions, and his principal residence, is a small, neat town, in an oval plain, surrounded by well-wooded hills, and watered by a meandering stream. The episcopal palace stands on an eminence, overlooking the town, and the environs are fertile in corn and pasture. One of the towers of the palace is said to be of Roman workmanship, and is a monument of its high antiquity.

The high roads, which lead from all quarters to Porentru, have been formed at a considerable expence, and do honour to the munificence of the sovereign.

Bellelay, which Mr. Coxe visited in his journey from Bienne to Porentru, is a rich abbey of Benedictines, about twenty miles from the capital, in a sequestered, but not unpleasant situation. This abbey is not confined solely to religious purposes; but contains a military academy, provided with suitable masters and professors. The whole expence of a scholar's education and maintenance does not exceed twenty pounds per annum.

On the 14th of August, Mr. Coxe made an excursion, with several friends, to Arlesheim, about four miles from Basle. They dined with Baron de Ligertz, one of the canons. After an elegant and social repast, their host attended them to a garden in the vicinity, called the Hermitage. The grounds are very extensive and pleasant; and form the usual promenade of the town. The walks are carried along the sides of rocks, richly wooded, and through a delightful semicircular plain, bounded by fertile hills, and watered by

by a small lake. Several natural caverns add to the romantic beauty of the scenery, while many tranfluent freams, conveyed from a diftance, fall in fmall cafes, or bubble from the ground like real fountains.

In another excursion to Bienne, they paffed through a fertile plain, watered by the Birs, and bounded by two chains of the Jura. As they proceeded, the plain gradually narrowed, and the mountains approached each other. They now entered the rich valley of Lauffen, encircled by rocks, fprinkled with groves of oak and beech, and exhibiting many romantic points of view.

About three leagues farther, they came to a narrow pafs, which leads to the valley of Delmont, and afcended to the town of the fame name, pleafantly fituated on an acclivity, backed by a ridge of rocks, embrowned by firs.

A mile beyond Delmont, they ftopped at Corrandelin, to view an iron foundery. The ore is drawn from the valley of Delmont, and is taken from the ground in pieces generally no larger than a pea.

Soon after, quitting Corrandelin, they entered a narrow glen, about four miles long, and, in many places, refembling a fubterraneous paffage. The road winds by the fide of the impetuous Birs, at the bottom of two ranges of white rocks, of inaccessible height, yet agreeably feathered with trees, which almoft exclude the rays of the fun from the narrow vale below.

In the midft of the glen is La Roche, the firft Proteftant village in the valley of Munfter; the houfes of which ftand on both fides of the Birs.

Having paffed this narrow vale, they entered a fertile plain encircled by hills, in the centre of

which stands the village of Munster. Half a mile beyond this, they came to another glen, more wild, more craggy, and obscure than that which they had lately left. The Birs rushes through it with great impetuosity, and the open space barely allows room for a carriage road. This causeway, over broken crags and steep precipices, does honour to the prince under whose direction, and at whose expence it was executed.

Though our author had frequently heard it remarked in Switzerland, that in all deep valleys, which intersect the mountains, the salient angles on one side correspond with the cavities of the other, and the parallel strata of rocks have a resemblance on both sides; yet he never saw the fact more strongly exemplified than in the two ridges of limestone rocks that border this glen. They are of stupendous height; and the strata, whether horizontal, inclined, or almost perpendicular, are exactly similar, and of the same thickness on both hands. Hence it is evident, they were formerly united, and have been rent asunder by some violent convulsion, or gradually worn by the attrition of the waters.

They now entered another plain, well cultivated, and spotted with villages; and towards the close of the evening arrived at Molleray, where they passed the night. The greatest part of the inhabitants are employed in agriculture; and seem a contented, happy, and industrious race.

Two miles farther they reached the celebrated pass of Pierre Pertuis, at the bottom of which the Birs bursts from the ground in several copious springs, and turns two mills within a few paces of its principal source.

Pierre Pertuis is a large arched aperture through a solid rock, about thirty feet long, forty-five broad, and thirty high in the lowest part. It is doubtful whether it is formed by art or nature. A Roman inscription over the arch, much defaced, has exercised the ingenuity of several antiquaries. It seems to imply that a road was formed through the mountain by Paternus, a duumvir, during the reigns of Marcus Aurelius and Verus.

The southern extremity of Pierre Pertuis leads into the valley of St. Imier. The inhabitants are Protestants, and are governed by a bailiff, appointed by the bishop of Basle. The whole district lies within the Jura mountains, and is fertile in pasturage.

On arriving at the extremity of Mount Jura, one of the sublimest views in nature bursts on the sight, commanding an undulating line of country fertilized by the Aar, and backed by the majestic chain of Alps, extending beyond the frontiers of Savoy.

Descending gently into the plain, they crossed the Sure, and finished this delightful expedition at Bienne.

This small territory lies between the lake and a chain of the Jura mountains, and contains about six thousand inhabitants. The town stands at the foot of the Jura, near the borders of the lake, which is here about nine miles in length and four in breadth.

The bishop of Basle is sovereign of this district; but the inhabitants enjoy many extensive privileges and franchises. The revenue amounts only to about three hundred pounds per annum; but, mean as his civil list is, it is still more considerable than his power.

The language of the country is a kind of provincial German. The people are active and industrious, and several manufactures are established in the town, which carries on a considerable trade.

The road from Bienne to Soleure traverses a fertile valley watered by the Aar, at the foot of a ridge of Mount Jura, the sides of which are deeply tinged with pendent forests of pine and fir.

Soleure is delightfully situated on the Aar, which here expands its banks, and opens into a spacious river. Some fanciful antiquarians ascribe the foundation of this town to Abraham; others with more probability maintain, that it was one of the twelve towns which was destroyed upon the emigration of the original inhabitants into Gaul. But whenever its demolition happened, it is pretty clear, from the medals, inscriptions, and antiquities, found in the neighbourhood, that the spot was reoccupied by a Roman colony, as its name, *Castrum Salodurense*, imports.

It is now a small, but extremely neat, town, surrounded by regular stone fortifications. Its population amounts to about four thousand. The church of St. Urs is one of the most striking objects in it. This is a noble modern edifice, of whitish grey stone, which admits of a high polish. The lower part of the building is of the Corinthian, and the upper of the Composite order. The expence amounted to at least eighty thousand pounds; a very considerable sum to a republic, whose annual revenues do not exceed twelve thousand sterling.

In the prison house, a strong stone building, the criminals are confined in separate cells. Though

Though the penal laws are apparently severe, yet the judicial sentences are so remarkably mild, that we are told a prisoner, on his acquittal, wrote on the wall of his cell, "He who is inclined to rob and escape hanging, let him exercise his trade in the canton of Soleure."

The public library is a late erection, and consequently cannot boast of any considerable treasures; yet by the industry and zeal of the Abbé Herman, it has already risen to some distinction. Great praise is due to this public spirited ecclesiastic, who with an income of barely sixty pounds a year, gave birth to the institution, and increased its stores at his private charge.

The circumjacent country is pleasantly diversified, and presents many views, which are as agreeable as wild, and as pleasing as romantic. The situation of the hermitage, called des Croix, is a most enchanting retreat, at the extremity of a small wood, not far from the town. This, however, is only one of the many scenes that invite admiration. In a country so picturesque as Switzerland, it is impossible to particularize every lovely or impressive view.

The canton of Soleure, which holds the eleventh rank in the Helvetic confederacy, stretches partly through the plain, and partly along the chains of Jura, and contains about fifty thousand people.

The soil is mostly fertile in corn, and some districts, which lie within the Jura, abound in excellent pasturage.

The trade carried on here is much less extensive than the situation would allow; for few of the cantons are more advantageously placed for a flourishing commerce.

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The inhabitants are Catholics, excepting those in the bailliage of Buckegberg, who are Protestants. In spirituals, the Catholics are under the government of three bishops;—those of Lausanne, Constance, and Basle.

The Protestants, though subject to Soleure, are under the protection of Berne. This complication of political and religious interests, formerly created frequent misunderstandings between the two cantons; but at last matters were amicably and finally adjusted; and Berne never interferes, except in regard to ecclesiastical matters in the Protestant bailliage.

All the male subjects in the canton, from the age of fifteen to that of sixty, are enrolled into six regiments; forming, collectively, eight thousand men, exclusive of two hundred and forty dragoons, and a corps of artillery. The colonel of each regiment is always a senator, and the major a member of the great council. The captains are either members of the great council, or ancient burghers; the first lieutenants are usually ancient burghers; while the subordinate officers are commonly chosen from among the most respectable peasantry.

The militia are assembled and reviewed every May and September; and in spring and autumn, are exercised by the inferior officers in their respective villages.

The sovereign power resides in the great council, which, including the senate, or little council of thirty-six, consists of one hundred and two members, chosen by the senate, in equal proportions, from the eleven tribes or companies, into which the ancient burghers are distributed; and
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in all instances, the vacancy is filled up from the company to which the last member belonged.

The prerogatives of the great council, are to enact and abrogate laws, to explain any obscure parts of the constitution; to levy taxes; to declare war, and conclude peace; to contract alliances; and to receive appeals in criminal causes, and in civil processes above a certain value. It assembles ordinarily once a month,; and extraordinaryly on being convened by the senate.

The senate or little council, a constituent part of the great, is composed of the two advoyers, or chiefs, of the republic, who annually alternate; the chancellor, or secretary of state, who, however, has no vote; and thirty-three senators drawn from the remaining sixty-six members of the great council, in equal proportions from the eleven tribes.

This senate is intrusted with the executive power, and with the care of the police. It has likewise supreme and final jurisdiction in all criminal causes, except where a burgher is concerned, who has the privilege of an appeal to the great council. The qualifications of a senator are, that he shall be twenty-four years of age, a member of the great council, and drawn from the same company to which the last senator belonged.

This body assembles thrice a week, and as often besides as circumstances require. The reigning advoyer has the power of convocation.

Government draws its principal revenues, which collectively do not exceed thirteen thousand pounds a year, from a tax on funds, from tithes, tolls, excise duties on wine, a monopoly of salt, subsidies, &c. &c.

The

The burghers are divided into ancient and new. The former consist of about eighty-five families, the descendants of those illustrious names who laid the foundation of the republic. These possess several privileges and exemptions above the new families; and the distinctions are very nicely observed between the two classes.

The burghers, both ancient and new, are distributed into eleven tribes. Every person may chuse his tribe; but having once inscribed his name in it, he cannot revoke the deed. For the purpose of obtaining a place as soon as possible in the government, a young nobleman fixes on that company in which there is likely to be a vacancy earliest; but if he enters into a different tribe from his father, he must pass a probation of a year before he can be a candidate for admission into the great council.

The general assembly of ancient and new burghers, called Rosengarten, which meets on St. John's day, for the purpose of electing, or confirming, the advoyer, and some other officers of the republic, is one of the grandest ceremonies in the state.

About six in the morning, the advoyer out of office, the senators, members of the great council, ancient and new burghers, assemble in their respective companies. After certain signals, the reigning advoyer, accompanied by some of the officers of state, repairs, with drums beating and trumpets sounding, from the town-house to the church of the Cordeliers; where, after presenting his offering upon the altar of the Virgin, he seats himself on a throne near the altar. In a short time, the senators and remaining members of the great council make their appearance, at
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the head of their respective tribes, and having presented their offerings, keep their ranks, except the ex-advoyer, who places himself near his colleague on the throne.

Mass being said, all the burghers retire, and the doors of the church are closed. The advoyer, with his sceptre in his hand, pronounces a harangue, then delivering up the insignia of office, he receives the thanks of the assembly by the attorney general.

This ceremony being finished, the advoyers retire to another part of the church, when the chancellor summons the senators into the choir, and having obtained their confirmation to the advoyers remaining in office another year, afterwards demands the approbation of the whole assembly of burghers.

The election being confirmed, with the customary formalities, the advoyers take an oath of office; and the procession returns, headed by the reigning advoyer.

From the consideration of this detail, it is evident, that the government of Soleure is strictly aristocratical, the lower classes of the people having little share in it. But under whatever denomination it may be classed, it is certainly mild and equitable, and the people are tranquil and contented.

The French ambassador to the Helvetic body resides at Soleure, and distributes those annual subsidies which are stipulated by treaty to be paid to the cantons*.

* This must be read with a reference to the time when Mr. Coxe wrote. The former relations between France and foreign nations are now totally changed; but certainly less with Switzerland than other countries.

It has long been a disputed point, whether Switzerland gains or loses by hiring out her troops to foreign nations in alliance with her. That the fidelity of these troops is universally allowed, is a circumstance that redounds to the honour of the national character; but, on the other hand, to traffic in blood, and for paltry subsidies to engage in any cause, seems to betray a mercenary spirit, and a disregard of justice and humanity. It has been urged that, were it not for those drains of the people, Switzerland would be overstocked with inhabitants, and find a difficulty in procuring subsistence; but in reply to this reasoning, it may justly be alleged, that the Swiss do not use all the resources in their power; and that commerce, in particular, is far from being generally encouraged or attended to.

In short, it seems, that the only advantage the cantons derive from engaging their subjects in foreign service, is to keep up a knowledge of the art of war and a martial spirit, which might be lost, or evaporate, during the long periods of peace which the Swiss enjoy. In other views, they are certainly losers; for the population is by no means so large as might be desirable: in most of the great towns, there is a manifest deficiency of inhabitants; and even in the country, hands are frequently wanted for the purposes of agriculture.

Having finished his account of Soleure, we next find our author at Zurich, from which he proceeded to Albis, a small village about three leagues distant, seated on the summit of a mountain, and commanding a delightful prospect.

Farther on they passed over the field of battle at Cappel, where Zuinglius was slain. While
they

they regretted this instance of disunion between the Swiss cantons, they could not refrain their unavailing concern at the contemplation of the premature death of that great reformer, who fell in the forty-eighth year of his age.

They pursued their journey to Zug through a most delightful country, so thickly covered with fruit trees, that the whole resembled a continued orchard.

Zug, the capital of a canton, is charmingly situated on the edge of a beautiful lake, in a fertile valley, abounding with corn, pasture, and wood. This canton preserved its fidelity to the house of Austria, when the neighbouring states had formed themselves into independent republics; but as it afforded frequent opportunity of invasion to their grand enemy, the allied states, in 1351, laid siege to Zug, and as the Duke of Austria was in no condition to relieve it, the town, at length, was obliged to surrender. The generosity of the conquerors was equal to the courage and magnanimity of the vanquished; for, in consequence of this submission, the canton of Zug was delivered from a foreign yoke, and was admitted into the Helvetic confederacy.

The government of this little canton is extremely complicated; and the inhabitants of the town have somewhat more influence than those in the other democratic cantons. The general administration of affairs is intrusted to the council of the regency, composed of forty members. The council, as well as the landamman, reside always in the capital.

Oswald, one of our old British kings, is the titular saint of Zug. In the church stands his statue, with the subsequent inscription:

Sanctus Oswaldus Rex Angliæ Patronus hujus Ecclesiæ.

This Oswald was a king of Northumberland, in the seventh century, and was much renowned for his chastity, and the fancied miracles he performed. Why, or by what means, he became so highly honoured at Zug, would be vain to enquire. Superstition has nothing to do with argument or reason; and Oswald, it must be confessed, is just as valuable a patron as any saint in the calendar.

Having got into a boat at Zug, they rowed across the lake, about three leagues long and one broad, and landed in the canton of Schweitz. From thence they walked to Kuffnacht; and in the way passed by a small chapel sacred to William Tell, and said to be erected on the spot where he shot the Austrian governor.

At Kuffnacht they embarked on the lake of Lucerne, and as they approached the fine town of that name, they were enchanted with the views which presented themselves on all sides.

Lucerne revolted from the house of Austria, and joined the confederacy which had been partially formed. In 1386, however, Leopold invaded the canton with a numerous army, determined to bring the people back to their allegiance. The combined troops of the Swiss engaged the enemy at Sempach, and gained a bloody victory, in which Leopold lost his life. When his troops began to waver and fall back, he might have escaped; but determined not to survive such an ignominious day, he rushed into the thickest ranks of the foe, and was slain. His armour is still preserved in the arsenal of the place, together with a quantity of cords, with which, according

according to tradition, he intended to have bound the citizens of Lucerne.

The government of this republic is aristocratical, or rather oligarchical. The sovereign power resides in the council of one hundred, comprising the senate, or little council. The former is nominally paramount, but the whole power actually resides in the latter, consisting of thirty-six members.

The chiefs of this republic are two advoyers, who are chosen from among the members of the senate, by the sovereign council, and annually confirmed. In all elections, the relations of the candidate, to the third degree, are excluded from voting; and neither the father and the son, nor two brothers, can be members of the senate at the same time. This is apparently an excellent regulation, to prevent the too great influence of family connections; but, however specious in theory, it is found to be useless in practice.

Lucerne being the first in rank and power among the Catholic cantons, is the residence of the pope's nuncio. The town scarcely contains three thousand inhabitants; it is almost destitute of manufactures, and has little commerce. Nor is this all—there is neither taste nor encouragement for learning; yet, under those combined disadvantages, some few have rendered themselves eminent by their literary acquirements. Our author mentions M. Balthasar, a member of the senate, and a man of great intellectual energy.

The population of the canton has considerably increased within the last century, a proof of the mild equity of the government, and the progress of the people in agricultural pursuits; for they have little else to depend on.

The cathedral and the Jesuit's church are the only public buildings worthy of notice; and they are laden with false ornaments, and disgraced by paltry paintings. In the cathedral is a fine-toned organ of large dimensions.

The bridges, which skirt the town, round the edge of the lake, are the fashionable promenades. Being covered atop, and open at the sides, they afford a pleasing view of the surrounding scenery. They are frequently decorated with coarse paintings.

On the arrival of Mr. Coxe and friends at Lucerne, they were introduced to General Pfiffer, an officer in the French service, and a native of this town. He shewed them his topographical representation of the mountainous part of Switzerland, which is extremely curious. It is a model in relief, about twelve feet long and nine and a half broad, comprising about sixty square leagues.

The composition is principally a mastic of charcoal, lime, clay, pitch, and a thin coat of wax; but so hard, that it may be trode on without damage. The whole is painted to nature; and represents the vegetable productions, the strata, lakes, towns, villages, and every object that can deserve the least attention.

The fine representation of a great part of Switzerland is taken from actual examinations on the spot, and has employed the general for many years. He takes his elevations from the level of the lake of Lucerne, which, according to Saussure, is about one thousand four hundred and eight feet above the level of the Mediterranean.

The general was extremely polite, and took a pleasure in explaining every circumstance connected

ned with his model. He began this elaborate work when he was fifty years of age, and though in his seventieth, when Mr. Coxe last saw him, continued his annual expeditions to the Alps, with a spirit and ardour that would fatigue the most active youth.

Among the phenomena of nature, he particularized the Rigi, an insulated mountain near the lake of Lucerne, twenty-five miles in circumference, and rising to a perpendicular height of more than four thousand feet. It is entirely composed of gravel and pudding stones, and must have been formed by the waters.

Another singular curiosity is Mount Pilate, in the same vicinity, formerly called Mons Pileatus, from its top being generally covered with a cloud, or cap. This word has been corrupted into Pilate, and a thousand ridiculous stories have been invented to account for the name. Among others, it is said, that Pontius Pilate, being seized with remorse, made an excursion into Switzerland, and drowned himself in a lake at the top of that mountain.

At the elevation of five thousand feet, and in the most perpendicular part of Mount Pilate, is observed in the middle of a cavern, hollowed in a black rock, a colossal statue of white stone. It is the figure of a man, in drapery, standing, leaning his elbow on a pedestal, with one leg crossed over the other, and so regularly formed, that it cannot be supposed to be a *lusus naturæ*. To this statue the peasants give the name of Dominic, and frequently accost it. By whom, or in what manner, it could be placed in such a situation, which has hitherto proved inaccessible to all, it is difficult to conceive. About the beginning of

the present century, one Huber, a native of a neighbouring village, attempted to descend into the cavern by means of ropes let down from the summit of the rock. He succeeded so far as to gain a near view of this singular phenomenon, and and was again drawn up in safety.

On a second trial he was suspended in the air, and was endeavouring to draw himself into the cavern by fixing a grapple to the statue—At this instant the cord broke, and he was dashed to pieces.

Since that dreadful accident, no one has ventured to repeat the experiment from the same quarter. In 1756, however, General Pfiffer, and eight others, made a trial to penetrate to this statue by a small opening on the opposite side of the mountain, which was supposed to communicate with the cavern. They crept on their hands and knees, one behind the other, and winding in the bed of a small torrent, through several narrow passes, they, at length, discovered the light of the sun through a remote chasm; but as the distance seemed very considerable, and as the fall of a single stone would have precluded their return for ever, they deemed it prudent to desist, and returned without effecting their purpose.

In his different visits to Lucerne, our author traversed the interior parts of the canton, by several routes. In one, he proceeded to the valley of Entlibuch, not often visited by travellers, which is one of those districts that unites the mild and cultivated with the more wild and rugged scenery of Switzerland.

On quitting this valley, they crossed the Emme, over a covered bridge. The romantic situation of Wertenstein, a convent of Cordeliers, overhanging the perpendicular banks of that torrent, attracted

tracted their attention by its singular beauty. At Malters, being fair day, they stopped, and dined at the table d'hôte, in company with several gentlemen from Lucerne. In walking through the fair, they observed several booths for the sale of artificial flowers, which were eagerly purchased by the country girls, and stuck in their hats with a degree of rustic elegance not unbecoming.

Near Zoffingen, they passed through a narrow valley, bounded by a chain of hills, which presented a charming sylvan scene. As they descended towards Surzee, the valleys expanded; and coasting the lake of Sempach, they came to the town of that name, celebrated for the battle which established the liberty of the Swiss. The anniversary of that memorable conflict, which happened on the 9th of July 1386, is still commemorated with great solemnity, both at Sempach and Lucerne; and supplies an inexhaustible subject for poetry and music.

On that anniversary, a large body of persons, of all ranks, assemble on the spot where the battle was fought. A priest ascends a pulpit, in the open air, and delivers a thanksgiving sermon on the successful efforts of their ancestors on that happy day, which ensured to their country liberty and independence.

Another priest reads a description of the battle, and enumerates the names of those brave Swiss who sacrificed their lives in the defence of freedom. They then repair to a small chapel, where masses are sung for the souls of the deceased, in which as many as can be admitted join; and the rest perform their devotions without, or on the field of battle, before four stone crosses.

The lake of Lucerne, from the sublimity, as well as variety, of its scenery, is perhaps the finest body of water in Switzerland. It is bounded, towards the town of Lucerne, by cultivated hills, gradually sloping to the water, contrasted on the opposite bank by an enormous mass of sterile craggy rocks. Mount Pilate rises boldly from the lake, and, according to General Pfiffer, its elevation is not less than six thousand feet. Another branch of the lake, called that of Schweitz, is environed by more lofty and more varied mountains; some covered to their very tops with the most vivid verdure; others perpendicular and craggy; in one place forming vast amphitheatres of wood, in another jutting into the water in bold promontories.

On the eastern side lies the village of Gerisau, forming a republic of itself. Its whole territory is about two leagues in length and one in breadth; and the number of its inhabitants about one thousand two hundred. Our author was informed, that there was not a single horse in the state; and, indeed, it is almost impossible he could be used in it. This little republic, in which peace and comfort seem to reside, is under the protection of Lucerne, Uri, Schweitz, and Underwalden.

To the ambitious, who judge of governments by power and extent of dominion, Gerisau may appear contemptible; but the smallest spot on earth, where civil liberty flourishes, cannot fail to interest those who know the true value of independence, and are convinced that happiness does not consist in grandeur and extensive empire.

Near the end of this branch of the lake lies the village of Brunnen, celebrated for the treaty concluded in 1315 between Uri, Schweitz, and Underwalden.

Underwalden. Here they landed, and walked to Schweitz, which stands on the slope of a hill, at the bottom of two high and rugged rocks. Its site is extremely delightful. The church is a large magnificent building in the centre of the town.

Reimbarking at Brunnen, they soon entered the third branch of the lake, or that of Uri, the scenery of which is still more grand and impressive. During a navigation of nine miles, the rocks were so steep and close, that they did not observe above four or five places where a landing would have been practicable. The rocks are wholly composed of stones of the shape and size of bricks, so as to appear quite artificial. They rise to the height of sixty feet, and are frequently clothed with underwood and shrubs.

At Seelisberg they observed a small chapel, apparently inaccessible, and below it the little village of Gruti, where the three heroes of Switzerland are said to have taken reciprocal oaths of fidelity, when they planned the revolution that set their country free.

On the opposite side is a chapel, erected in honour of William Tell, on the spot where it is said he leaped from the boat, in which, he was conveying as a prisoner to Kussnacht. It is built upon a rock, projecting into the lake, under a hanging wood; a situation amid scenes so peculiarly striking and awful, as must rouse the most dull and torpid imagination. On the inside of this chapel, are coarsely painted the several actions of the deliverer of his country. As they stood viewing them, they observed the countenances of the watermen glistening with exultation; and they related with much spirit and sensibility

sibility the cruelties of Gesler, and the intrepidity of William Tell. Such a natural enthusiasm is highly honourable, and ought to be encouraged, when respect is paid to virtue.

Having landed at Fluellen, they walked to Altdorff, the capital burgh of the canton of Uri, situated in a narrow valley, almost wholly surrounded by stupendous mountains. It contains several neat and comfortable houses, the tops of which are covered with large stones, in order to prevent their being carried away by those hurricanes, which are so frequent in mountainous regions.

The government of Uri and Schweitz, from the latter of which, as being one of the first assertors of liberty, the appellation of Switzerland is given to the whole country, is purely democratical. The supreme power resides in the inhabitants at large, who are divided into several communities, from which are chosen the councils of regency.

In the cantons of Uri and Underwalden, every burgher has a right to vote at the age of fourteen, and in Schweitz at fifteen. The councils of regency of Uri and Schweitz consist each of sixty members, and reside at the capital burghs. In this council the executive power is reposed, and from this body the principal magistrates are chosen.

The two cantons contain about fifty thousand souls, and can furnish about twelve thousand militia. The same kind of soil and productions are common to both; the whole track is rugged and mountainous, consisting chiefly of pasture, and affording but little corn. Yet to the native,

Dear is that shed to which his soul conforms,
And dear that hill which lifts him to the storms :
And as a child, when scaring sounds molest,
Clings close and closer to the mother's breast ;
So the loud torrent, and the whirlwind's roar,
But bind him to his native mountain more.

GOLDSMITH.

Every step they now took was, as it were, on sacred ground : monuments continually occurred of those memorable battles, by which the Swiss rescued themselves from oppression, and secured the enjoyment of their invaluable freedom.

On quitting Altdorff, they passed at first through a fertile grassy plain, in which the peasants were mowing their second crop of hay ; and in about nine miles, began ascending. The road winds continually along the steep sides of the mountains ; and the Reuss in many places entirely fills up the bottom of the valley, which is very narrow. They were obliged to pass the river several times over wooden bridges of a single arch, and beheld it tumbling under their feet in channels which it had formed through the solid rock. Innumerable torrents roared down the sides of the mountains, which in some places were bare, in others tufted with wood. The darkness and solitude of the forests, the occasional recurrence of verdure ; immense fragments of rock, blended with enormous masses of ice, rendered the scene at once sublime and awful.

They passed the night at Wasen, a small village, and next morning advanced for some way on a rugged ascent, through the same romantic country as before. Scarcely could they walk a hundred yards without crossing several torrents,
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that devolved themselves from the tops of the mountains.

This being one of the great passes into Italy, they met many pack-horses, laden with merchandise; and as the road is in particular places very narrow, it required some dexterity to make the horses pass without jostling.

These roads, impending over precipices, cannot fail of inspiring terror into travellers unaccustomed to such a country. Hitherto, however, they had passed through a track tolerably populous; but continuing to ascend, the country suddenly assumed a more sterile and inhospitable aspect; the rocks were bare, craggy, and impending; and neither the vestige of a habitation, nor scarcely a blade of grass was to be seen.

In a short time, after entering on this scene, they came to a deep chasm over the Reufs, which here forms a considerable cataract down the shaggy sides of the mountain, which it has undermined. The superstratum is called the Devil's Bridge; and when the cataract is viewed from this spot, neither painting nor poetry can do justice to the sublime horror it inspires.

Not far from this desolate landscape, the road conducted to Urner-loch, a subterraneous passage, cut in a granite rock, which opened at the opposite entrance into the calm and cultivated valley of Urseren. In general, even in Switzerland, there is a regular gradation from extreme wildness to high cultivation; but here the transition is abrupt, and the change instantaneous.

In this valley are four villages, forming a small republic, under the protection of Uri. The territory is about nine miles long and two broad,
and

and contains about one thousand three hundred people. The chief magistrate is called the Talamman; and there is a permanent council of fifteen members, who assemble in each of the different districts. The inhabitants enjoy many privileges; but are not absolutely independent, as appeals lie, in some cases, to Altdorff and Uri.

Urseren is surrounded by high mountains, covered with pasturage to a considerable height, but capped with snow. Near the middle of this beautiful plain, they turned to the left, and entered the valley of St. Gothard, filled with the ruins of broken mountains, and washed by the rapid and furious Reufs, which rolls through blocks of granite, with irresistible impetuosity.

The valley of St. Gothard is remarkably dreary. It contains no vestige of a human habitation, nor does it produce a single tree. The extremity is closed by the still ruder and naked rocks of the Feudo, supporting in its hollows, vast masses of snow, while the superb glacier of the Locendro towers above the adjacent heights.

They took up their lodging at a house inhabited by two Italian friars, from the convent of Capuchins at Milan, who afford hospitality to all strangers who pass that horrid track. One of the friars being absent, they were accommodated with his chamber, and after the fatigues of their journey, enjoyed as sound repose as if they had slept in a palace. They were supplied with delicious trout, eggs, milk, butter, and cheese, the produce of the vicinity.

Though it was the middle of summer, the cold was become so intense, from the elevation of the place, that a fire was highly acceptable. They passed a boy at work, who was blowing his fin-

gers to warm them ; yet a few hours before, the climate was mild and pleasant.

From thence they made an excursion to the sources of the Tesino and the Reufs. The former has three principal sources in the chain of St. Gothard. The first is a spring which rises towards the bottom of the Prosa, and is entirely covered with frozen snow ; the Lake of la Sella supplies the second source ; and the third is furnished by the melted snows of Mount Feudo.

These three sources uniting with another branch, that flows from the Furca, through the valley of Bedreto, from one great torrent that, after quitting the Alps, traverses part of the Milanese, and falls into the Po.

The Reufs rises from the lake of Locendro, an oblong piece of water, about three miles in circumference, embosomed by the mountains Petina and Locendro. The stream issuing from this lake, pours through the valley of St. Gothard, and joining in the vale of Urseren a branch from the Furca, and another from the Grison mountains, flows towards the north into the lake of Lucerne, and from thence throws itself into the Po.

Within a day's journey, is the source of the Rhine in the Grisons, and about the distance of three leagues, that of the Rhone in the Furca.

They were still surrounded with high rugged rocks and inaccessible glaciers, so that their view was very much confined. According to Saussure, they were now seven thousand feet above the level of the sea ; or, according to the calculation of General Pfiffer, 9075 ; yet this is not the highest spot, even in Switzerland.

A few

A few years ago, the elector of Bavaria sent to the friars, who inhabit this dreary spot, several barometers, thermometers, and other meteorological instruments, from which the following observations on the atmosphere have been made.

In the most extreme degree of cold, the mercury in Reaumur's thermometer fell 19 deg. below the freezing point, or 10 of Fahrenheit. The greatest heat was 13, or $61\frac{1}{2}$ of Fahrenheit.

M. de Luc's barometer never rose higher than 22. 3. 1. nor fell lower than 20. 9. 9. In the year that the above observations were made, it snowed on one hundred and eighteen days, rained seventy-eight, cloudy two hundred and ninety-three, tempest with hail two, thunder and lightning twenty-two, serene days eighty-seven.

Taking leave of their kind host at St. Gothard, they walked down the valley, and again entered Urseren at Hopital, where the sublime views continued to charm the senses.

Passing through the small village of Zundorf, they stopped at Realp to refresh. From thence they soon arrived at the extremity of the valley of Urseren, when they began ascending a narrow, steep, and rugged path, where a horse, with some dexterity, could barely put one leg before another. To magnify the danger, the path sometimes lay on the edge of a precipice, so craggy and stony, that a false step must have been fatal. Our author, however, gave full rein to his steed, and derived some safety from this confidence.

At length they came to a torrent, which they passed with some difficulty on a plank. A little way farther, they arrived at another, still deeper and more violent, without any bridge; and to in-

crease their difficulties, their guide was unacquainted with the road.

After some observation, they discovered that part of the mountain had lately fallen down and destroyed the path, leaving only a faint narrow track on the side of the precipice. Some of the party passed this on their hands and knees, while Mr. Coxe plunged into the torrent on horseback. One of the servants being seized with a panic, had nearly fallen down the precipice; but by some assistance, he got over safe.

Being collected on the other side, they regained a kind of path, but so steep, that it was thought prudent to dismount, and suffer the horses to make their own way. At length, with extreme hazard, they reached the summit of the Furca, which receives its name from a number of rugged and forked rocks, piled one upon another.

The country round is as dreary and desolate as possible. All vegetation seemed to have ceased, and nothing presented itself to their view, but the most astonishing and sublime scenes of rude nature.

Beginning to descend, they came to a clear stream of water, by the side of which they sat down to a repast of bread, cheese, and hard eggs, the only provisions they could procure at the last habitable place. In full view before them was the glacier of Furca, an immense valley of ice, at least three miles long and one broad.

The sun shining in an opposite direction, it glistened like crystal, and reflected a number of beautiful tints. The ice seemed to be breaking in several places, from the cracks they heard; while the torrent of the Rhone, that rises chiefly
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from this glacier, was roaring beneath. The range of mountains on which they were sitting was overspread with underwood and herbage; and some cattle were feeding on the heights; a pleasing contrast to the sterility of the opposite chain.

After finishing their banquet, and taking time to contemplate the singularity of the scene, they descended to the bottom of the glacier, where they viewed the Rhone bursting with violence from its bed of ice, near the huge fragments of a fallen rock.

Following the course of that stream, they proceeded down a mountain so steep, that the several parts of the road winding along its sides, were frequently parallel to each other. The Rhone foamed with amazing rapidity through the valley below, and fell in successive cataracts.

They had now travelled fifteen miles from Urseren, without seeing a single dwelling; but at this spot they came in sight of a few cottages on the other side of the Rhone, which announced their approach to the Vallais. In a short time that beautiful vale opened to their enchanted view, presenting several scattered villages.

They wished to take up their abode for the night at a very mean inn, the master of which, pointing to a large cheese, told them it was all his provision; his bread, his fish, and his meat. Anxious for better fare and more comfortable accommodations than this place supplied, they pushed on to Munster, where they arrived late at night, and found good entertainment, for the country they were in.

On quitting Munster, next morning, they were joined by a peasant, who wishing to know their

their opinion of his dear country, pointed to the mountains with rapture, and exclaimed, "Behold our walls and bulwarks: Constantinople is not so strongly fortified."

This part of the Vallais seems not to be much frequented by travellers, as the inhabitants shewed more signs of curiosity than is usual where strangers are often seen.

Leaving the plain, they began to ascend the Grimfel, one of those Alps which separate the Vallais from the canton of Berne. They were four hours in reaching the summit. The lower parts were pretty fertile, higher up were forests of larch and pine, and on the top grew nothing but lichens and mosses.

From the top of the Grimfel, they descended about two miles, and arrived at a small plain, surrounded by mountains, on which stood one miserable hovel. Here they were obliged to pass the night. They were supplied with excellent cheese, butter, and milk; some good wine, a portion of kid, and a boiled marmot.

The landlord is stationed in this forlorn region by the canton of Berne, and he resides here nine months, on purpose to receive all travellers that can pay for their accommodations. When he quits the place, during the three winter months, when the road this way is almost impassable, he leaves a certain quantity of cheese, hard bread, salted provisions, and fuel, in case any unhappy wanderer should accidentally come that way.

Numerous herds of goats are kept during summer on the circumjacent mountains. They are let out every morning to feed on the pastures, and return every evening before sun-set, to be milked and housed. To a person fond of nature,
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it is a pleasing sight to observe them marching homewards in the same herd, following each other along the broken precipices, and clambering up the almost inaccessible rocks *.

The sources of the Aar lie in these mountains. Near the hovel, where our traveller lodged, are three lakes that supply water to that impetuous river, which rolls from the neighbouring glaciers. Mr. Coxe walked some way along the side of the Aar, searching for crystals, which are common in these parts, and found pieces of various colours. It is certain that veins of gold and other metals abound in the mountains; and a considerable quantity of gold-dust has been found in the bed of the Aar. But perhaps nothing could be more fatal to the interests of Switzerland, or more obnoxious to the liberties of the people, than the sudden influx of wealth, from opening mines of the precious metals. The industry of every wise nation is more estimable than its wealth; and happiness consists rather in an ignorance of wants, than in a capacity of gratifying them.

Though it was the 12th of August, our author found the cold on the Grimsel more piercing than he could well support, in so much, that it deprived him of sleep.

Having quitted their wretched abode, they traversed the valley of the Aar, through an unbroken chain of wild, rugged, and uninhabitable Alps.

The road along this valley was much narrower

* The chamois goat is common on these mountains. They usually keep in herds of twenty or thirty, one of which is always stationed as sentinel, while the rest are feeding. The lichen *rangiferinus*, or rein-deer lichen, is a favourite part of its food.

than that from Altdorff to St. Gothard, and was formed in a similar manner along the steep and declivities, with arches and bridges over the chasms, and across the tremendous precipices. It is paved with flat pieces of granite, so smooth and slippery, that horses must be rough shod to be able to keep their feet.

This valley exhibited the usual Alpine scenes, except that the Aar rushes with more than common impetuosity, and frequently, when swollen with torrents, ravages the adjacent country. They crossed it several times over stone bridges of a single arch. In one place they saw the river falling from a considerable height into a deep and narrow gulph, and then losing itself in the midst of the forest. The body of water is very considerable, and the perpendicular fall, as far as our author could judge by the eye, was at least one hundred and fifty feet. The surrounding scenery was majestic and solemn; the grey rocks rising to a great height on both sides, with their tops fringed with pines.

In their way to Meyringen, they traversed large forests of beech and pines, and at last, passing several small villages, which formed a delightful contrast with the desolate country they had just left, they entered a beautiful little valley, where all was calmness and repose.

From this silent and sequestered spot, they descended to a larger valley, on the banks of the Aar, picturesque in the highest degree, from the agreeable and ever-varying colour of the rocks that bound it, whose tops are broken into irregular and fantastic forms. Here, indeed, every cottage, every fragment, every shrub, is a picture in itself.

Having

Having now visited the sources of the three great rivers in Switzerland, and traced their impetuous progress, through a track of country, in which nature has exhibited the most grand and most august of her works, our author confesses his inability to describe the impression which the scenes made on his mind. Every river, every rock, mountain, cataract, and precipice is respectively distinguished by an infinite diversity of modifications, and by all the possible forms of beauty or magnificence, of sublimity or horror. Yet these discriminating variations, which cannot escape the most inquisitive eye, elude every attempt at delineation, and defy the strongest powers both of the pen and the pencil.

Meyringen, to which they were now advanced, is a large and neat village, and the capital burgh of Hasliland, a district in the canton of Berne, which enjoys considerable privileges. The people are governed by their own magistrates, and only take an oath of fidelity to the sovereign council of Berne. They are a fine race of men; and seem to possess superior strength and beauty to many of their neighbours. The women are tall and handsome, and wear their fine brown hair in the most bewitching style.

Meyringen stands on the Aar, in a very romantic vale, surrounded by meadows of the most luxuriant vegetation, and dotted with cottages. Close to the village, the torrent of Alp-bach falls from Mount Housli, in two perpendicular cascades, and in such a large volume as to occasion frequent inundations. Near this torrent, another fall of water, called the Dorf-bach, glides gently down the bare rock, and farther on, the Millebach glistens through a hanging grove of pines,

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In the more mountainous parts of Switzerland, where there is little but pasture, meat is very reasonable, but bread comparatively dear. However, as money is very scarce here, when we are told that beef sells at two pence halfpenny a pound, we are not to suppose that the poor can live better than in England, when it is sold at five pence. In estimating the price of commodities, the comparative value of money must always be taken into consideration.

They left Meyringen on the 13th of August, and mounted the Sheidec, through a beautiful forest of beech and pines. About two miles on their way, they dismounted, to view the fall of Reichenbach, deservedly celebrated for its variety and beauty.

The Reichenbach rises at the foot of the Wetterhorn, and rolls in numerous cataracts down the steep sides of Mount Sheidec, till it unites with the Aar at Meyringen. Its falls may be divided into three parts, each of which has its appropriate features of sublimity or beauty. Its greatest elevation may be about two hundred feet perpendicular. The spray, the foam, the roar, at once delight and astound.

After having ascended about three hours from Meyringen, they halted to refresh in a delightful vale, strewed with cottages, and environed by woods, glaciers, and mountains; among which, the Wetterhorn, or Stormy Peak, lifted its pyramidal top, capped with eternal snow.

As they were taking their repast, they were startled by a noise like thunder, occasioned by a large body of snow falling from the mountain, which, in its precipitate descent, had the appearance of a torrent of water reduced to spray. These

These *avalanches*, as they are called, are sometimes attended with the most fatal consequences; the best preservative against their overwhelming force, is a barrier of trees towards the mountains, with which the generality of the villages are furnished.

Continuing their course at the foot of the Wetterhorn, which, in this part, appeared so tapering and perpendicular, as to resemble half of an immense pyramid, they conceived it impossible that any scenes could be more rude and majestic than those before them; but on reaching the top of the Sheidec, they burst upon a view, which, in wildness and horror, exceeded all they had yet seen.

The descent from hence to Grindelwald is gentle, but tedious. That village, consisting of numerous detached cottages, exhibits an agreeable and picturesque scene. Two valleys of ice which extend into the plain of Grindelwald, are called the Superior and Inferior Glaciers. The former lies between the Wetterhorn and the Mettenberg; the latter between the Mettenberg and the Egerhorn.

On the 14th of August, they sallied forth, full of impatience to view these glaciers. They arrived first at the bottom of the Inferior, forming a majestic arch of ice, from whence issued a torrent of snow water, just melted. This glacier is composed of numerous pyramids, about forty or fifty feet high, gradually shortening till they terminate in a broad surface, broken into deep and wide chasms.

This glacier is several miles in length, and is supposed by many, but without reason, to join the glacier of the Aar. After employing about

two hours in ascending a very difficult path, at the edge of this frozen region, they were prevented from proceeding farther, by rugged rocks and a rising hill of ice. They returned, as our author confesses, rather disappointed in their expectations, though certainly it was a curious and sublime sight, yet below the ideas they had formed.

It was afterwards discovered, that had they taken another route, they might have penetrated to the Superior Glacier, and have reached the base of the Schreckhorn. Probably the knowledge of this circumstance, when it was too late, put them out of humour with what they had seen.

Not far from the glacier of Grindelwald, several kinds of forest trees arrive at perfection; and near the verge of the ice, our author gathered strawberries and wild cherries, and observed hazel-nuts, barberries, and mulberry trees. Indeed the valley of Grindelwald is extremely fertile, and produces abundance of grain as well as pasturage.

From Grindelwald, they proceeded in a cart to the valley of Lauterbruennen, embosomed in the midst of the Alps. The western boundary of the valley, from which the Staubbach falls, would in any other country, be called an enormous mountain; but here it appears only a trifling hill, in comparison with the opposite chain, of which the highest point is Jungfrau-horn, that rises to a stupendous height.

They lodged at the house of the clergyman of Lauterbruennen, a collection of cottages, sprinkled about the valley and the accessible parts of the hills. Near this is the celebrated fall of Staubbach. This torrent rolls perpendicularly from so vast a height, as to resolve itself into fine spray.

spray. The greatest part of it falls clear of the overhanging mountain, during its whole descent ; but the remainder dashes about half way against a projection from the rock, and flies off with great violence. The perpendicular height, as ascertained by the clergyman, is about nine hundred and thirty feet. When the sun shines in an opposite direction, a small rainbow is reflected towards the bottom of the fall, which diminishes as the spectator approaches.

On looking up to the torrent, quite under the fall, it resembled a cloud of dust, and from this appearance it takes its name, which means a *spring of dust*.

Next morning they rode to the extremity of the vale, and ascended to the glaciers, which stretch from the feet of the Breit-horn and Gross-horn. After mounting about three hours, they came to a hut inhabited by herdsmen, where they feasted on cold chamois and delicious cream. From thence they advanced to the borders of the glaciers, entirely surrounded by rugged and almost impassable rocks ; and having contemplated this grand view with rapture and astonishment, they returned to their former quarters.

The nearest route, from the charming valley of Lauterbruennen to the baths of Leuk, is across the mountains to Kandersteig ; but this is only practicable on foot ; having therefore determined to visit the baths, they took the usual road through a fertile plain, between the lakes of Thun and Brientz.

About two leagues from Lauterbruennen, they arrived at the Aar, and followed its course till it entered the lake of Thun. The body of water is about four leagues long and one broad. The

borders are richly variegated, and present several charming landscapes.

Having coasted this lake, through a delightful country to the small village of Leisigen, they ascended to *Æschi*, and afterwards entered the fine valley of *Frutigen*, and enjoyed, for a considerable way, a prospect of those glaciers they had visited the day before.

The road continued good as far as *Kandersteig*, from whence travellers, who are too delicate to mount a rugged ascent on foot or on horseback, are carried in an arm chair, on men's shoulders. Our author and friends, however, proceeded on horseback, and after riding an hour and a half, they arrived at the summit of the *Kander*, where a wooden cross marks the entrance into the *Vallais*.

The chain of mountains, which here separates the canton of *Berne* from the *Vallais*, is called the *Gemmi*, from the point of which, overhanging the *Vallais*, they had an extensive prospect over that fertile country, and the rugged Alps of *Savoy*.

The mountain they descended is, in many places, almost perpendicular; yet a horse road has been hewn in the hard rock, at the joint expence of the *Vallais* and the canton of *Berne*. More than a league has been blown up with gunpowder; and a way formed with incredible labour, which, though safe, would fill a person, not used to such scenes, with horror to tread.

Leuk is famous for its hot medicinal springs, and is much frequented by invalids, who either bathe or drink the waters, according to their various cases. In gout, rheumatisms, obstructions,
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and cutaneous disorders, these waters are nearly of the same efficacy as those of Bath.

The springs are of different warmths and qualities. According to the most accurate experiments, the mercury in Fahrenheit's thermometer, when plunged into the principal source, stood at 115.

The accommodations for the company are very indifferent. Formerly they were tolerably good; but, in 1719, an *avalanche* fell with such impetuosity from a neighbouring glacier upon the village, as to overwhelm the greatest part of the houses and the baths, and to bury many of the inhabitants.

Since that period, no farther attention has been paid to the baths or the accommodations, than barely to render them useful to the sick. Mr. Coxe, contrasting Leuk with Bath, gave his ideas on the advantages which might be derived from improving the former. A sensible gentleman of the Vallais informed him, that it had frequently been in contemplation to erect buildings for the comfortable reception of strangers; but that some persons of great credit and authority opposed all improvements, on a principle similar to the policy of Lycurgus; justly conceiving that a concourse of strangers would only introduce luxury among the inhabitants, and insensibly destroy the simplicity of their manners, at once their pride and their happiness.

From Leuk they travelled to Sion, the capital of the Vallais, through a forest of firs, crossing the Rhone twice in their journey. The Vallais is divided into two districts, the upper and lower. The bishop of Sion was formerly absolute sovereign over the greatest part of this track; but his power is now extremely circumscribed, and he

has only a conjoint authority with seven dixains. The republic of the Vallais is an ally of the thirteen cantons; and has formed a particular league with the Catholic ones, for the defence of their common religion.

The inhabitants of this track are very subject to goitres, or large excrescences of flesh under the throat; and what is more remarkable, idiocy is frequent among them.

The air is so very hot in this vale, that it naturally renders the people indolent; and the soil is so rich, that they have little occasion to labour. Their nastiness is disgusting beyond expression; and has by some been ascribed as the cause of their goitres. This, however, cannot be the case; nor can drinking snow water occasion them; for, on the last supposition, they would be frequent in other parts of Switzerland. Mr. Coxe, from the most particular enquiries, and the most exact observation, thinks that these horrid excrescences arise from the use of spring water, highly impregnated with a calcareous matter, called tuf, the porus of old authors, and the tophus of modern. In every country, he observes, where this substance abounds, and the natives drink the waters in which it is imperceptibly dissolved, goitres are more or less common. At Matlock, in Derbyshire, he noticed goitrous persons, and there much tuf is found; at Friburgh, Berne, and Lucerne, he saw similar effects from the same cause. Hence though there are many fanciful hypotheses, which refer goitres to other causes, we may rationally conclude, from uniform experience, that where they are very general, it must originate from the nature and qualities of the water.

The same cause which generates goitres, probably operates in the case of idiots; for wherever the former abound, the latter are also found. During our author's expedition through the Vallais, he observed some of all proportions, from the size of a walnut to almost the bigness of a peck loaf. The same gradation may also be observed in the degree of idiocy. Some possess the dawnings of reason, while others are totally deaf and dumb, and give no proof of existence, but mere animal sensation.

Such is the nice and inexplicable connection between our bodies and our minds, that the one always sympathizes with the other; and therefore it is by no means an ill-founded conjecture, that the same waters which create obstructions and goitres, should also occasion mental imbecility and derangement.

Sion, the capital of the Vallais, is situated near the Rhone, at the foot of three insulated rocks, that rise above the plain. The highest, called Tourbillon, supports the ruins of the old episcopal palace. On the second, named Valeria, are seen the remains of the old cathedral; and on Mayoria, the third rock, stands the present episcopal palace, the apartments of which are fitted up with the greatest simplicity,

Sion was formerly the principal town of the Siduni, who inhabited this part of the country in the time of Julius Cæsar. A few inscriptions, still remaining, prove its antiquity. One, which Mr. Coxe observed, is in honour of the emperor Augustus, in his eleventh consulship.

At Sion they discharged their horses and guides, which had attended them from Altdorff, and hired a coach, a piece of luxury to which they had been

long unaccustomed. Our author, however, still preferred riding, as it gave him a more unobstructed view of the country.

They stopped at Martigny, supposed to be the ancient Octodurum; and indeed, from Cæsar's description, that town could not be far distant from the present Martigny.

Martigny is much frequented by travellers, in their way to the Valley of Chamouny, to St. Maurice, and the Lake of Geneva, and is the passage of the merchandise conveyed over the Great St. Bernard to Italy.

Having crossed the Trient, a turbid torrent issuing from a narrow and obscure glen, they arrived at Pisse Vache, a famous cataract. The characteristic beauty of this fall is, that it seems to burst from a cleft in the middle of the rock through pendant shrubs, and forms a perpendicular column of water, about two hundred feet high. The volume being very ample, and the elevation not so considerable as to reduce it into spray, render the effect very grand.

Formerly travellers passed close to Pisse Vache; but some years ago, part of the rock tumbling down, totally obstructed the old road, which is now carried over the middle of the valley.

At the extremity of the lower Vallais, the mountains seem to meet, and allow little more than a passage to the Rhone between them. In this spot stands the town of St. Maurice, almost entirely built upon the rock, at the foot of some steep mountains near the river. Its ancient appellation was Agaunum, and it derives its present from the the Abbey of St. Maurice, erected in the beginning of the sixth century, in honour of a saint, who is said to have suffered martyrdom in this place.

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This saint was commander of the famous Theban legion, which is recorded to have been massacred by order of the emperor Maximin, for not renouncing Christianity.

A few Roman inscriptions, chiefly sepulchral, and two defaced columns, are the only genuine remains of the antiquity of St. Maurice. It is principally distinguished as being the grand entrance from the canton of Berne into the Vallais. This pass is very narrow, and so strongly fortified by nature, that a handful of men might oppose an army.

The stone bridge over the Rhine is of very bold projection; its span being one hundred and thirty feet.

From hence they travelled to Trient, a village in the road to Mont Blanc and the Alps of Savoy. From the mountain of the Furca, the eastern boundary of the Vallais, two vast ranges of Alps inclose that country. A track, thus entirely encircled by ridges, and consisting of plains, valleys, and hills, must necessarily present many various features. Accordingly, in the Vallais, the traveller is entertained with a quick succession of prospects, as beautiful as they are diversified. Vineyards, rich pasture grounds, covered with cattle, corn, flax, fruit, and forest trees, at intervals enliven the landscape. This strong and striking contrast between the pastoral and the sublime, the cultivated and the wild, cannot fail to affect the mind with the most pleasing emotions.

The Vallais supplies more than sufficient wine and corn for internal consumption; and the rest is exported. In the plain, where the heat is very intense, harvest is usually finished in July; whereas, in the more elevated parts, barley is the only productive

productive grain, and the crop is seldom cut before November.

There are no manufactures in this district of any consequence; and, indeed, the general ignorance of the people is no less remarkable than their indolence; so that, compared with the Swiss in general, they may be considered as some centuries behind hand in knowledge and improvements. Having few wants to gratify, and being satisfied with the spontaneous gifts of nature, they enjoy her ready blessings without studying to improve them.

After quitting Trient, they traversed narrow valleys, through forests of pines, along the course of a small but impetuous torrent. The road, which is very rugged, is carried over some steep crags of a mountain, called La Tete Noir. As they approached the valley of Chamouny, the vast mountains and glaciers of Savoy rose majestically before them.

Mont Blanc is distinguished from other mountains by a deep mantle of snow, which not only clothes its summit, but reaches a considerable way down its sides. To form some idea of this gigantic mountain, conceive that the snow, which appears to cover its top and sides, exceeds an altitude of four thousand feet perpendicular, and nine thousand in a horizontal direction, from the Dome of Gouté to the summit; and that the height of the snow and ice, estimated from the bottom of the glacier of Monanvert to the summit of Mont Blanc, cannot be less than twelve thousand feet.

Five glaciers extend into the vale of Chamouny, separated from each other by forests, cornfields, and meadows; so that large tracks of ice
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are blended with cultivation, and succeed each other in singular vicissitude. These glaciers, which lie chiefly in the hollows of the mountains, unite at the foot of Mont Blanc, which, according to M. de Luc, is fifteen thousand three hundred and four English feet above the level of the sea * ; and is incontestibly the highest mountain of Europe, and probably of the ancient world. Etna is only ten thousand nine hundred and fifty-four feet, and Vesuvius three thousand nine hundred ; so that the elevation of Mont Blanc exceeds them both united. The Peak of Teneriffe has been calculated, by Fenillé, at thirteen thousand two hundred and forty-eight feet: the height of the Mountains of the Moon, in Africa, the Taurus, and the Caucasus, have never been ascertained with any degree of exactitude ; but there is no reason to suppose that either of them exceed or equal Mont Blanc. The Andes, however, in South America, are unquestionably higher than it.

On the 23d of August, they mounted by the side of the glacier of Bossion to what are called the Walls of Ice, forming large ranges of prodigious thickness and solidity, some of which appeared to be one hundred and fifty feet high †. From the glacier, which they crossed without much difficulty, they enjoyed a fine view of the vale of Chamouny.

* Sir George Shuckborough makes it fifteen thousand six hundred and sixty-two feet, which gives a difference of three hundred and fifty-eight, of little consequence in such an immense calculation.

† In 1785, these walls no longer existed.

Next

Next morning, they set out, with three guides, in order to visit the Valley of Ice in the glacier of Montanvert. After advancing three miles on horseback, they were obliged to dismount, and scrambled up a steep and rugged path to the summit of Montanvert. From hence they descended to the edge of the glacier, and made a refreshing meal on some cold provisions, employing a large block of granite, called the Stone of the English, for their table. An English gentleman has since built a wooden hut in this vicinity, called, from his name, Blair's Cabin. The scene around them was most magnificent and sublime: many of the rocks rose boldly above the clouds, some covered with snow, and some bare. Several of the peaks gradually diminish towards their summits, and these have obtained the appellation of Needles. Between these rocks, the Valley of Ice stretches several leagues in length, though the greatest breadth does not exceed a mile.

Having refreshed themselves, they prepared for their adventure across the ice. Each of them was furnished with a long pole, spiked with iron, and other precautions. The chief difficulty of crossing these valleys of ice, arises from the immense chasms, some of which are of inconceivable depth.

They began their walk with some degree of caution and deliberation, but gradually gaining courage and confidence as they advanced, they had soon reached almost the opposite side; when they were stopped by a broad chasm, which obliged them to take a circuit of above a quarter of a mile, in order to get round it.

A storm threatening every moment, they were glad to hasten off the glacier, as rain renders the
ice

ice exceedingly slippery; and in case of a fog, their situation would have been highly dangerous.

Scarcely had they quitted the ice before the lightning began to flash and the thunder to roll, whose peals being re-echoed within the hollows of the mountains, increased the sublimity of the scene.

After escaping several dangers, and combating many difficulties in this expedition of curiosity, they gained the valley of Chamouny, and returned to their inn, quite drenched with the storm; but well pleased with the novelty they had seen.

Our author made another excursion from Chamouny to the Couvercle. They arrived at the foot of this mountain, after walking about six miles on the ice. They now ascended by a narrow path, carried along the ridge of the precipice. The scenery around them was so sublime as to banish all ideas of fatigue and apprehension.

Having taken some refreshment by the side of a fountain, and the clouds beginning to gather, they were warned to hasten to the top of the Couvercle. From that station they had a view of three stupendous valleys of ice, all uniting in one grand track, called the Glacier de Bois, which stretched under their feet, and was surrounded by rugged needles.

The dead silence which reigned in this place was only interrupted by the bounding of the distant chamois, and the cries of alarm which the marmots gave to warn their tribes.

The Couvercle is a most extraordinary rock, having the appearance of a large irregular building, placed on a mountain. The rock is of granite. Near its bottom they found a bottle, containing the names of two Englishmen, who had proceeded

proceeded so far a fortnight before. The present party wrote their names on the reverse of the paper, and carried the bottle to the top of the Couvercle.

The precipice was so immense, that they did not dare to measure it with their eyes; and a thunder storm coming on, they were glad to take shelter under an impending rock.

Reflecting that they had the same way to measure back, and the same difficulties to encounter in their return, they were not quite exempt from apprehension; but collecting themselves, they became more tranquil. Though entirely surrounded between ice and snow, and barren crags, their eyes reposed on a triangular rock, clothed with grass and Alpine plants. It is known by the name of the garden, and exhibits a brilliant contrast to the surrounding desolation.

The sky appeared a deeper blue than they had been used to behold; and they were informed, by a person accustomed to Alpine scenes, that, on considerable elevations, he had seen the stars at noon day. They descended in safety, and reached their lodging about seven in the afternoon, without the least accident; and wrapt in astonishment on the recollection of scenes, which surpass imagination, and defy description*.

* Our author here gives a history of the various attempts to reach the summit of Mont Blanc, by James Balma, Dr. Paccard, M. de Saussure, and others; but as this does not properly enter into his own travels, we omit it. It is well known, that M. de Saussure not only succeeded, but favoured the world with many physical observations made on the spot. A few days after M. de Saussure's expedition, Mr. Beaufoy, an English gentleman, an early acquaintance of the writer of this note, succeeded in a similar attempt, but encountered greater danger, from the enlargement of the chasms of ice.

Having

Having quitted the delightful vale of Chamouny, and its magnificent scenery, they continued their route towards Geneva. As they advanced, the mountains gradually diminished, and the several valleys through which they passed, presented more varied features.

Following the course of the founding Arve, near Salenche, they came to a descent; and on their right hand descried a small lake, whose situation is extremely picturesque. Soon after they entered the plain, which continues almost a perfect level to Geneva.

Salenche lies at the bottom of a broad valley, which here contracts to a narrow pass. Tradition says, that this little plain was once a lake, and, indeed, its figure and soil seem to justify the opinion.

Not far from Magland, they stopped to admire the cascade of Arpenas, which rushes from an impending rock, with a fall of, at least, one hundred yards perpendicular. It is divided into an almost imperceptible spray; and afterwards collecting itself, trickles down the sides of the mountains in a thousand little streams. The body of water is much more considerable than that at Staubbach, and the fall appeared to our author quite as high.

They next visited the cave of La Balme. Having scrambled along a precipice, they mounted a ladder, and by the aid of the branches of a hazel, growing on the rock, they pulled themselves into a natural cavern, more than a quarter of a mile in length, and forming various ramifications, that led into lofty vaults and spacious openings.

They passed the night at Cluse, and next morning reached Bonneville, standing on the Arve, at

the bottom of a chain of rocks. This track, which lies in Faucigny, produces corn and wine in abundance, but is neither populous nor cultivated to the utmost.

By the little village of Chene they entered into the territory of Geneva; and the sudden transition from Savoyard poverty and misery, to the neatness and comfort of the Genevans, sensibly affected the imagination.

Geneva lies on the narrowest part of the lake, whence the Rhone issues in two large and rapid streams, that soon afterwards unite. That river divides the town into two unequal parts. The adjacent country is uncommonly picturesque, and is replete with magnificent views.

Geneva, which lies partly in the plain on the borders of the lake, and partly on a gentle ascent, is irregularly built. The houses are lofty; and many have arcades of wood, which are raised even to the upper stories. These arcades give a gloomy appearance to the street; but protect the inhabitants from the sun and the rain. The population is computed to amount to twenty-four thousand souls, which renders it the best peopled town in Switzerland. This superiority of numbers is unquestionably owing to industry, commerce, liberty, and an encouragement to foreigners to settle there.

The members of this city are divided into citizens and burghesses, inhabitants and natives. The citizens and burghesses are alone admissible to offices of government: the inhabitants are strangers who are allowed to settle in the town with certain privileges; and the natives are their sons, who are allowed still farther advantages. The two last classes form a large majority of the people. The

The liberal policy of this government, in receiving strangers, and conferring the burghership on them, is the more praiseworthy, as it is contrary to the spirit and usage of the Swiss. The smallness of the state, indeed, may render this the more necessary, as its very existence depends on the number and industry of the people.

The reformed doctrines, first preached at Geneva in 1533, owed their final reception and establishment to John Calvin. That celebrated reformer was born at Noyon, in 1509, and being driven from France by the persecutions raised against the Protestants, under Francis I. made his first appearance in this city in 1536.

By degrees he prevailed on the government to establish a public academy; but, with singular disinterestedness, declined the offer of being made perpetual president, and obtained that office for his friend and fellow labourer, Theodore Beza. In this new seminary, Calvin, Beza, and others, read lectures with such uncommon reputation and success, as attracted students from all quarters.

This is the brightest part of Calvin's character; but it was not without its shades; for though he was striving against persecution, his spirit was not sufficiently mild and tolerant to renounce persecution himself. His treatment of Servetus, though it may be palliated, cannot be excused.

Nevertheless, the republic of Geneva is, at present, the most tolerating of all the reformed states of Switzerland; it being the only government in this country, that permits the public exercise of the Lutheran religion.

To the lovers of literature, Geneva is particularly interesting. Here learning is divested of

pedantry, and philosophy united with a knowledge of the world. The pleasures of society are not thought incompatible with the pursuits of science; and urbanity gives a zest to the profoundest disquisitions.

Nor are letters confined to those merely who cultivate them as a profession, or who enjoy the means of following the bent of their genius; even the lower class of people are better informed than in most cities of Europe. But the wonder ceases, when it is known, that all of them are educated at the public academy, where the children of citizens are taught under the inspection of the magistrates, and at the expence of government.

The citizens enjoy the advantage likewise of free access to the public library. This owes its origin to Bonivard, prior of St. Victor, who was twice imprisoned for having asserted, against the Dukes of Savoy, the independence of Geneva; and who, becoming warm by persecution, and more firmly attached to this place by the sufferings he underwent in its defence, at last considered it as his own. He was a principal promoter of the reformation, by the gentle and commendable means of instruction; and closed his benevolent labours in favour of Geneva, by the gift of his valuable manuscripts and books, and by bequeathing his fortune towards the establishment and support of the seminary.

The library contains about twenty-five thousand volumes, and many curious manuscripts, of which an accurate and learned catalogue has been published by M. Sennebier, the librarian.

Among the distinguished literary characters that Geneva has produced, in the present century, Bonnet, Saussure, Mallet, and M. de Luc, deserve particular

particular commendation. These are so well known by their works, that it is unnecessary to enlarge concerning them.

The city of Geneva and its adjacent territory were formerly united to the German empire, under the successors of Charlemagne. By degrees they fell under the power of the dukes of Savoy; but when the Swiss cantons emancipated themselves into liberty, the Genevans were inspired with the glorious ardour of independence, and in 1584 were admitted into the Helvetic confederacy.

Various revolutions, however, have since taken place in this famous city, and some of them at no distant date. On such scenes it is unpleasant to expatiate. What may be the ultimate situation of Geneva, even at this moment, cannot be determined; but we cannot refrain expressing our ardent wishes, that it may ever enjoy that liberty which seems so dear to it; and with the holy flame of independence, preserve that veneration for religion and morals, without which no state can long be prosperous or respectable.

Geneva is strongly fortified on the side of Savoy, and a garrison constantly maintained; but though these might guard them from any sudden attack, they would be ineffectual to secure them from a resolute and persevering enemy.

The great security, indeed, of the republic, consists in its alliance with the Swiss cantons; and the jealousy that the neighbouring powers would feel at seeing it become subject to either. Geneva is the only state in Switzerland that has no regular companies in any foreign service, wisely prohibiting the enlisting of mercenaries in every part of its territory.

From Geneva our traveller proceeded to Craffi, a small village in the Pays de Vaud, where they spent a day with one of their countrymen, who had taken up his summer residence in this delightful spot. In their way to Craffi, they passed through the French village of Versoi, or Choiseul's Folly; so called, because he attempted to ruin the trade of Geneva, by raising this place into consequence at an immense expence. The scheme, however, proved abortive; and the statesman's name is a standing jest to the Genevans.

Of the Pays de Vaud all travellers speak with rapture, particularly of that district which borders on the lake of Geneva. Indeed, no country can be more delightful, more populous, or picturesque. It chiefly belongs to Berne.

They passed through Noyon, the Colonia Equestris Noiodunum, which still contains undoubted vestiges of its antiquity. Here the lake forms a beautiful curve, to which Lucan alludes, where he mentions the army of Julius Cæsar on its borders.

They strike their tents, and quit the *hollow bend*
Of Lemar's Lake.

Morges, situated at the extremity of a beautiful bay, is the finest town in these parts. The environs are extremely pleasant; the banks of the lake rise in amphitheatric pride to the Jura; and Mont Blanc presents itself through an immense opening in the opposite chain of rocks, in all the majesty of sublimity.

Near this town are some extraordinary large lime trees. In Switzerland, it seems, this beautiful tree is indigenous, and often grows to a vast size.

Lausanne

Lausanne is built on such a steep ascent that, in some places, foot passengers ascend and descend by steps; but such is the beauty of the situation, that these inconveniences are disregarded. This town contains about seven thousand inhabitants. It is governed by its own magistrates; has its own courts of justice; and what is most singular; the citizens who possess houses in the principal street, enjoy the privilege of pronouncing sentence in criminal causes. The sovereignty of Lausanne, however, belongs to Berne.

Here is an academy for the students of this country. Professors in every science are appointed by government; and there is a tolerable library for public use.

The church of Lausanne, formerly the cathedral, is a magnificent Gothic pile, standing on the most elevated part of the town. In it are the sepulchres of Amadeus VIII. duke of Savoy, styled the Solomon of his age, and of several other distinguished persons. Amadeus exhibited the rare instance of a man twice abdicating the pomp of sovereignty, and returning to a private station. He is best known, however, by the name of the Anti-pope Felix V.

The Roman antiquities, found in almost every part of Switzerland, are too numerous to be particularized; but our author says, he cannot refrain mentioning two monuments lately discovered near Lausanne.

The one is an altar of white marble, with an inscription which proves it to have been erected by the twentieth legion to the god Silvanus. The other is a Roman mile stone, which bears the following inscription.

IMP.

CÆS. T. Æ. AUG.

ANTONINO.

PIO. PM. KRIB

COS. III. P. P.

AVENT: M. P. T.

XXXVIII.

Bochart expresses his surprise, that no inscription charged with the name of Antoninus Pius, who was so great a benefactor to the ancient Helveticians, had yet been discovered in Switzerland. This inscription removes the charge of ingratitude, and strengthens the evidences of history.

From Laufanne to Vevay, the road runs along the sides of mountains, between continued ranges of vineyards, which have been cultivated and improved with infinite labour and expence.

Vevay, the ancient Vibiscum, is the principal town of the bailliage of the same name. It stands in a small plain on the edge of the water, is clean and well built, and carries on some little trade. The borders of the lake here are more contrasted, wild, and picturesque, than those about Geneva.

Vevay is famous for being the residence of Edmund Ludlow, the parliamentary general, who, true to his principles of republicanism, no less strongly opposed the usurpation of Cromwell, than the arbitrary measures of Charles I. and could never be prevailed on, either by fear or flattery, to desert the cause, which he considered as the cause of justice and liberty. Such consistency of character endears, and even covers errors. Ludlow died in 1693, in the 64th year of his age, and was interred in the church of Vevay, under a plain

plain stone of black marble, with a Latin inscription.

His house is still to be seen near the gate leading to the Vallais, and over the door is the subsequent inscription, which is still preserved out of respect to his memory.

Omne solum forti patria est, quia patris.

Nature, in all her works, has scarcely produced a situation more delightful than that of Châtillard, at Clarens. It stands on an eminence whose gentle declivity slopes down towards the lake; and it commands a view of that majestic body of water, with ample landscapes over Savoy. The immediate environs consist of vineyards, cornfields, and pasture, and rich groves of forest trees.

Though the situation and the vicinity harmonize with the animated descriptions of Rousseau, in his *Eloise*, yet the castle by no means accords with the same. The whole structure has rather the antiquated appearance of a feudal mansion, inhabited by some proud and turbulent baron, than the residence of the elegant and impassioned Julie.

Opposite to Clarens lies the village of Meillerie, in the recess of a small bay, at the foot of impending mountains, some clothed to the water's edge with dark forests, others naked and perpendicular.

These are the scenes of the new *Eloise*. Our author compared the descriptions of Rousseau with the appearances of nature; and though small objects may be magnified, no pencil, however animated, can delineate, nor even the glowing

ing pen of Rousseau describe, the sublime beauties of the general situations.

Mr. Coxe made an excursion from Vevay to the salt works of Bex and Aigle. The road continues along a plain bounded by hills on one side, and by the lake on the other. The farther they advanced, the nearer the mountains approached the lake; their nature changed; their height increased; and their craggy tops and sylvan sides, intimated the vicinity of the genuine Alps.

The castle of Chillon, by the way, is a large pile, with several round and square towers. It is built on a rock in the lake, and is connected with the land by means of a drawbridge. The vaults are very fine; and the arched roofs and pillars are in the true Gothic style.

This castle was wrested from Charles III. of Savoy, by the Swiss in 1536. In a deep dungeon below the level of the lake, the conquerors found Bonivard, the intrepid assertor of Genevan independence. He had been imprisoned here by the Savoyards six years; and by constant walking in his narrow limits, had worn a hollow in the rock.

About half a league farther is Villeneuve, a small town at the extremity of the lake. From Geneva to this place, along the concave side of the lake, is fifty-four miles.

Passing La Roche, memorable for being once the residence of Haller, and the birth-place of many of his most esteemed publications, they left Yvorne at a little distance, and crossing the torrent of La Grande Eau, halted at Aigle, a good town, seated at the foot of some round hills, covered with firs.

Farther on, the valley appears much contracted, and assumes the aspect of a great forest. The
beautiful

beautiful laburnums, and the cornelian cherry are frequent here in a wild state.

Between Aigle and Bex is a most enchanting view of the castle of St. Tryphon, on the summit of a lofty, insulated rock, in the middle of the plain. Our author was informed it was built of marble, and as a beautiful black species is found very near, this may be easily credited.

Bex is a small town, at the foot of the mountains, five miles from the salt works of Bevioux. Between those two places the larch grows in great abundance. This is the *immortale lignum* of the Roman naturalist. The chefnut woods are also very extensive.

On their arrival at the salt springs, they equipped themselves in a proper dress, and went into the mountain, about three thousand feet, almost horizontally. The passage is about six feet high, and four broad, and is hewn out of a black rock, veined with white gypsum.

The salt is obtained from springs found within a solid rock, which is perforated at a great expence. The strongest brine yields twenty-eight pounds of salt per hundred weight; but in general the produce is much less.

Near these springs are several warm sources, strongly impregnated with sulphur, some of which also contain a mixture of salt, and will flame, if a lighted candle be put into the pipe through which they flow.

After proceeding in this subterraneous passage three quarters of a mile, Mr. Coxe observed a great wheel of thirty-five feet diameter, which serves to raise the brine from the depth of more than seventy feet. From this place is a shaft three hundred feet high, for the purpose of admitting fresh air.

Two reservoirs are hollowed in the solid rock, for holding the brine, one of which is one hundred and sixty feet square and nine deep. The brine deposited in these reservoirs, is conveyed by numerous pipes to Bevieux, a league distant, where the salt is extracted.

The brine pits at Aigle are less rich and productive than those of Bevieux; but the salt is much whiter and heavier, and consequently bears a higher price.

These salt works, the only ones in Switzerland, scarcely supply a twelfth of the consumption in the cantons. The remainder is procured from France, which is obliged, by treaty, to furnish this article at a moderate price. The ordinary price of common salt in Switzerland is three halfpence per pound.

The chain of mountains called Jura, in various parts of the Pays de Vaud, forms many elevated valleys, much frequented by travellers, among which, not the least remarkable, is the valley of the lake of Joux, on the top of Mount Joux, a branch of the Jura. This valley contains several neat and well-peopled villages, and is beautifully chequered with wood, arable, and pasture ground. It is washed by two picturesque lakes, the largest of which is named from the mountain. The smaller is called Lake Brennet: they are divided by a narrow neck of land, which leads to the village of Charbonniers.

Not far from the small village of Abbaye, a rivulet gushes from the bottom of the rock, and mixes with the larger lake. From the smaller lake, descends a stream, which is soon left in a hollow gulph; and on the other side of the hill, bursts forth the river Orbe, probably produced from the last-mentioned stream here ingulphed.

This

This little vale contains about three thousand inhabitants, who are remarkably industrious. Some are watchmakers; but the greatest part are employed in polishing crystals, granites, and marcasites. In the small village of Pont, where our travellers lodged, the greatest part of the inhabitants bore the surname of Rochat, and were all sprung from the same ancestor.

From Romain Motier to Orbe, they passed over a beautiful and picturesque country. Orbe, according to antiquarians, was the most ancient and powerful town of all Helvetia. It was called Urbs, by way of pre-eminence; but no remains of its ancient splendor now exist. Some antique fortifications, an old castle, and a round tower, though not works of modern times, are probably far remote from the era of Roman grandeur.

The situation of Orbe is very romantic, and the environs are no less delightful. In this town Mr. Coxe mentions a surgeon, of the name of Venel, eminent for curing distortions of the human frame, and who enjoys the protection of government. No institution can be more honourable or useful, and the success that attends this gentleman's practice, shews how well he deserves the public confidence.

The castle of St. Barthelemi, about three miles from Orbe, is one of the most charming spots in Switzerland. It stands near the high road from Lausanne to Yverdun, and commands a prospect of a most fertile and well wooded country, gently broken into hill and dale; besides including the more distant landscapes of the Alps of St. Bernard and Mont Blanc.

From this castle they descended into the plain that stretches to the lake of Yverdun. Within a

quarter of a mile of the town of the same name, are warm sulphureous baths, much frequented during the summer months.

Yverdun is large, airy, and well built, and in front, towards the lake, has a pleasant lawn planted with avenues of limes. It carries on scarcely any trade; and its principal support arises from its being a thoroughfare between Piedmont and Germany.

The lake of Yverdun, or Neufchatel, stretches from south to north, about twenty miles in length, and in some places near five in breadth. Its shores near Yverdun are covered with country houses.

Skirting this fine lake on the west, they came to Granfon, the scene of the memorable battle in which Charles the Bold, duke of Burgundy, was defeated by the Swiss in 1476. The country here is most charmingly varied. In their way from hence to Neufchatel, they spent a day with some Swiss friends at Colombier, in the most agreeable manner.

After dinner, some musicians of the country performed the *Renz de vaches*; that inspiring air, which was forbidden to be played among the Swiss troops in the French service, as it awakened such tender recollections in the soldiers, of their native country, as often produced a settled melancholy, or occasioned desertion. To this species of patriotic regret the French give the name of *La Maladie du Pays*.

There is nothing peculiarly striking in the tune to a foreign ear: it is composed of the simplest notes; but such melodies have ever the most potent effect on the common people, who can
enjoy

enjoy what is natural with the most exquisite relish.

The inhabitants of mountainous countries have been observed to be most subject to the *maladie du pays*, from the general familiarity of manners that prevail in such situations. Accordingly the Scotch Highlander, the Biscayan, and the Swiss, when absent from their country, are peculiarly apt to be affected with every circumstance that recalls it to their mind.

Neufchatel contains about three thousand inhabitants. It is partly seated on the little plain between the lake and Jura, and partly on the declivity of that mountain. At the commencement of the present century, trade was almost unknown here, or rather it was proscribed, as being degrading; but this senseless prejudice is now nearly abolished. Excellent wine begins to be exported from the neighbouring vineyards; and manufactures of printed linens and cottons have been established with success.

As a proof that a spirit of improvement is rapidly increasing here, several public works have been executed at an expence far exceeding the revenue of this little state. But Neufchatel has met with a most munificent benefactor in the person of David Pury, late banker of the court at Lisbon, which enables it to engage in great undertakings.

This gentleman was a native of Neufchatel, and was born in 1709. After receiving a moderate education, he passed an apprenticeship at Geneva, and from thence he came to London, where he was engaged as clerk to an eminent jeweller; and soon acquired a facility and accuracy in valuing diamonds at sight.

After a long residence in England, he established himself at Lisbon, and carried on an extensive trade in Brasil wood and precious stones. Being likewise appointed court banker, his fortune rapidly increased; but he did not consign his money to his coffers, or sparingly distribute his bounty. On the contrary, he remitted large sums to his native town, and having no family, he at last made his country his heir, to the amount of nearly two hundred thousand pounds sterling.

He died in 1785; and though his grateful countrymen had obtained from the king of Prussia the title of baron in his favour, such was his singular modesty, that he never used it. The citizens of Neufchatel, however, willing to do honour to his memory, have placed the portrait of this generous benefactor in one of the apartments in which government assemble, and have ordered a marble bust of him to be placed on the new town-house, built principally at his cost.

From Neufchatel, our traveller made an agreeable excursion into the neighbouring mountains. They passed through Vallengin, the capital of a district of the same name, a small open burgh with a castle. About mid-day they arrived at La Chaux de Fond, from whence they proceeded to Locle, through a continued range of pleasing cottages, which skirt both sides of the road, and are scattered likewise over the country.

La Chaux de Fond and Locle, with the adjoining districts, may contain about six thousand inhabitants. They carry on an extensive commerce in lace, stockings, cutlery, watch and clock work. The genius and industry indeed, observable upon these mountains, exhibit a scene uncommonly pleasing.

Not

Not many years ago, the greatest part of these valleys was almost one continued forest; but trade and manufacture have happily changed the scene into flourishing villages and fertile pastures. Besides the natural effect of frequent and early marriages, the result of every subsistence and certain provision for their children, as soon as they are able to work, every stranger, who brings a certificate of his good behaviour, is at liberty to settle, and to follow any trade without the least restriction. Here no apprenticeship is necessary; nothing is contraband; and industry exerts herself untaxed.

The origin of watchmaking in these parts, as related by M. Osterwald, the historiographer of these mountains, is extremely curious. In 1679, one of the inhabitants brought a watch from London, which being out of order, he intrusted it to Daniel John Richard of La Sagne. Richard, after examining the mechanism with great attention, determined to attempt making a watch from the model before him; but being in want of every instrument, and having nothing but his own genius to direct him, he spent a whole year in finishing the necessary tools, and in six months more produced a complete watch.

But his persevering industry did not stop here; he took a visit to Geneva, where he gained considerable information in his adopted art. For some time he was the only watchmaker in these parts; but business increasing, he instructed several associates; and towards the beginning of the present century, he removed to Locle, where he died in 1741, leaving five sons, who followed their father's profession.

The knowledge and practice of the art gradually

ally spread itself, and it is now become almost the universal employment of the place ; and may be deemed the principal cause of the population, observable in these mountains.

But it is not only in the more immediate pursuits of business, that the ingenuity of the natives of this track is perceptible ; in almost every thing connected with their comfort and accommodations, their inventive genius may be traced ; and the polish of their manners renders it a pleasure for strangers to visit them *.

The rock which forms the base of the Jura, is chiefly calcareous ; and perhaps there is no spot in Europe where so many petrified shells and marine plants are to be found. Near Locle, our author, observed a ridge of hills, entirely consisting of stones, bearing the impression of plants.

In returning, they enjoyed a most sublime prospect of the lakes of Neufchatel, Bienne, and Morat, with the high and rugged chain of Alps, stretching from the cantons of Berne, and Friburgh, as far as the Vallais and the mountains of Chablais.

“ Such perfect ease and plenty, “ says Mr. Coxe “ reign throughout these mountains, that I scarcely saw one object of poverty ; the natural effects of industry, under a mild and equitable government. It is of these valleys and of their inhabitants, that Rousseau gives so enchanting a description in his letter to D'Alembert.

* The writer of this has frequently remarked the intimate correspondence that subsists between the employments and the manners of men. Those who are engaged in elegant manufactures, or in labours of ingenuity, always gain a tincture of politeness from the nature of their pursuits ; while gross and vulgar employments, if they do not brutalize the mind, at least prevent it displaying itself in an amiable light.

By

By the death of the dukes of Nemours, in 1707, the sovereignty of Neufchatel and Vallegin became vacant; and being claimed by Frederic I. king of Prussia, as heir to the prince of Orange, his right was acknowledged by the states of the country. Since that time the sovereignty has remained in the Prussian crown; but by the constitution it is very limited; and the people seem to consider their connection with Switzerland as paramount to every other obligation.

During the absence of the prince, he is represented by a governor of his own appointing; who enjoys considerable honours; but is extremely limited in his authority. Indeed freedom and independence are no where more largely the lot of the people, than in this appendage of the Prussian monarchy.

In another visit to this country, our author proceeded from Pontarlier, in Burgundy, towards Neufchatel. Having passed the castle of Joux, they came to the line of separation between Switzerland and France, and mounting an eminence, looked down on the beautiful valley of Travers.

Having descended to St. Sulpice, they visited the source of the Reufs, which issues at the foot of a rock in five copious springs, and soon forming a large body of water, winds through the beautiful and romantic valley of Travers. In traversing this, it was impossible for travellers of sentiment not to pay a visit to Moitier Travers, rendered illustrious by the residence of Rousseau, who being first driven from Geneva, and afterwards from Yverdun, found a refuge from civil and religious persecution in this sequestered valley,

ley, under the protection of Lord Keith, governor of Neufchatel.

This singular man of genius lived in a wooden building, at the farther extremity of the village, near the road to Fleurier. The room he chiefly occupied, is a small bed-chamber, which, out of respect to his memory, remains unaltered. In a corner, near the window, he had formed a kind of recess, between two book cases, where he sat and wrote on a simple deal plank.

During a three years residence at Moitier, by frequently sauntering into the fields and neighbouring mountains, he acquired a taste for botany, which he ever after cultivated with peculiar delight. Here he produced several of his works.

On his first arrival at Moitier, he appeared in a common dress; but afterwards assumed that of Armenia, which he alleged was best adapted to a disorder with which he was afflicted; but probably in this, as in other instances in life, he was carried away by the affectation of singularity.

Through the intercession of the governor, the king of Prussia offered Rousseau a pension of a hundred pounds a year, which offer he declined, from his love of independence; and chose rather to subsist on copying music, in which employment he used to boast he could earn a guinea a day.

After Rousseau had continued three years at Moitier, greatly delighted with his situation, an unexpected event induced him to quit his retreat. Some say that the populace, incited by the minister of the parish, in consequence of the scepticism displayed in his *Lettres Ecrites de la Montagne*, assembled in crowds, broke the windows of his house, and entering his bed chamber, treated him with such violence, that he escaped with great difficulty,

difficulty. On the other hand, it is maintained, that his house-keeper, whom he afterwards married, working upon the fears of a jealous and irritable mind, made him conceive apprehensions of personal injury from the inhabitants, with whom she was disgusted, and induced him to make his escape.

This story seems, however, to be trumped up, to save the credit of the natives from the infamy of persecution; but the fact is, the scepticism of Rousseau had raised a party against him, and he was even summoned before the consistory to answer for his opinions. The king of Prussia was farther solicited, by the council of state of Neuchâtel, to condemn one of his publications; but Frederic, in an answer which does equal honour to his head and his heart, while he permitted them to use any precautions that might tend to prevent the spreading of sceptical opinions, yet wisely forbade all persecution, and ensured to Rousseau a secure retreat at Moitier. Before his majesty's goodness, however, was known, he either found or fancied cause for alarm, and took refuge in the island of St. Peter.

This, which is now sometimes called Rousseau's island, lies towards the southern extremity of the lake of Bienné. A large farm house, formerly a convent, is the only habitation it contains, and in apartments of this, the philosopher took up his lodging for two months.

The whole island is well wooded, and contains agreeable walks, though it is not more than two miles in circumference. Amidst these solitary woods and walks, Rousseau used to spend his time without any apparent object, indulging solely his delicious reveries.

His

His situation and enjoyments, in this little island, he describes with his usual elegance, in terms almost bordering on rapture. The woman of the house informed our author, that he paid forty shillings a month for his board and lodging, that he kept very regular hours, and was extremely cheerful and agreeable.

Simple and unsatisfactory as his mode of life, in this island, must appear to those who have no resources in their own minds, Rousseau thus expatiates on his felicity in this situation: "I have remarked," says he, "during the vicissitudes of a long life, that the most delightful enjoyments and the most rapturous pleasures, are not, upon recollection, those with which I am most affected. Such fleeting moments of passion and delirium, however rapturous, are, from their very nature, but thinly scattered in the path of life. They are too rare and rapid to constitute a fixed state; and the happiness which my heart regrets, is not composed of fugitive instants, but consists in a simple and permanent state, without rapture, the duration of which increases the charm, till it finds supreme felicity."

Fortune, however, which seemed to take a delight in harassing Rousseau, did not long suffer him to enjoy his delicious emotions in this retreat. He soon received an order from the government of Berne, to depart from their territories. Shocked at this sudden and unexpected command, the distracted philosopher, in the bitterness of despair, petitioned to be imprisoned for life, only requesting the use of a few books, and that he might be occasionally permitted to walk in the open air. Soon after this extraordinary request, which cannot

not but interest every feeling mind, he reluctantly quitted the island.

In their way to Morat and Avenches, they crossed the river Thiele, which issuing from the Lake of Neufchatel, discharges itself into that of Bienne.

Morat is a bailliage belonging to Berne and Friburgh, and is pleasantly situated on the edge of a small lake, in the midst of a well cultivated country. The environs are uncommonly delightful.

This place is celebrated for the obstinate siege it sustained against Charles the Bold, which was followed by a battle, fought in the vicinity, in 1476. In this famous engagement the Duke was routed, and his whole army almost entirely destroyed by the confederate troops of Switzerland.

Nor far from the town, and adjoining to the high road, is an existing monument of this victory. It is a square building, filled with the bones of the Burgundian soldiers, who were slain there. To judge from the quantity of these bones, the number of the slaughtered must have been considerable.

Avenches, the principal burgh of a bailliage in the Pays de Vaud, has occasioned much controversy, and given rise to many conjectures among antiquarians. Some contend, that it was the capital of all Helvetia; but however this may be, as resting on an equivocal expression of Tacitus, certain it is, that it was formerly a very considerable town under the dominion of the Romans.

The site of the ancient walls appear to have enclosed a space near five miles in circumference. The present town occupies but a very inconsiderable part of this ground; the remainder is covered with corn-fields and meadows. One of the ancient
towers

towers still exists : it is a semicircular building, with the convex side turned towards the town.

They next examined a Mosaic pavement, discovered some years ago in ploughing a field ; and being now enclosed by a barn, is let to some peasants as a drying house for tobacco. Strangers are suffered to take away specimens ; nor, for a considerable time, was government sensible of the value of these antiquities.

This Mosaic, which was the floor of an ancient bath, is sixty feet long and forty broad. The general form is perfect ; and, though several parts are broken and lost, yet the configuration of the whole may easily be traced.

From thence they were conducted to the ruins of an ancient amphitheatre, within the walls of the bailiff's garden. The general form and size of this building are tolerably perfect, as also parts of the enclosing brick walls. The diameter of the arena is about eighty yards. Under a tower, partly built of Roman materials, is a cell, in which the animals were probably let loose. On the outside are still to be seen the remains of five dens ; and the walls appear to have been originally adorned with sculpture.

Not far from the amphitheatre stands a large column of white marble, about fifty feet high, composed of large masses, closely joined together without cement ; and near it lies a considerable fragment of defaced sculpture, which seemed once to have formed part of the portal belonging to a magnificent temple.

As they walked through the town, they remarked several other masses of cornice, ornamented with sea-horses and urns, and some marble columns, of beautiful proportions.

About a mile from Avenches, where the late Lord Northampton long resided, and where he died, is the village of Coppet. Near this last are the remains of a small aqueduct, which has been traced to the east side of the town. Other aqueducts, or a continuation of this, are to be seen in different directions, even to the distance of four leagues.

Friburgh, the next place which falls under our author's description, enjoys one of the most beautiful, and, certainly, one of the most picturesque situations in Switzerland. It stands partly in a small plain, partly on bold acclivities, on a ridge of rugged rocks, half encircled by the Sane; and is so wholly hid by the circumjacent hills, that the view of the whole town bursts at once on the eye from the impending eminence.

The fortifications enclose a circumference of about four miles, within which space is a singular mixture of houses, rocks, thickets and meadows, varying instantly from wild to agreeable, from the din of men, to the solitude of retirement.

On all sides, the descent to the town is extremely steep; and in one place, the streets even pass over the roofs of the houses. Many of the edifices are raised like the seats of an amphitheatre; and many overhang the edge of the precipice in such a manner, as would turn a weak head giddy to look down.

From the Pont Neuf, however, is the most extraordinary point of view. From hence, part of the town appears absolutely inaccessible. Those who are fond of the wild and romantic, will not forget to visit the Moulin de la Motte, and the Valley of Goteron. The Moulin is a miller's dwelling, hollowed in the midst of an impending

rock, and near it issues a small torrent, which, after turning the mill, falls into the Sane.

The Valley of Goteron, which lies on the north-west of the town, is extremely narrow, and bounded by high and overhanging rocks of sand stone. This valley contains several mills, an iron foundery, and a cotton manufactory.

Among the few buildings worthy of particular notice, in Friburgh, are the cathedral and the town house. The former is an ancient Gothic edifice, erected in the fourteenth century; the town-house once composed part of the palace belonging to the dukes of Zeeringen, in the principal court of which is a lime tree, which, according to tradition, was planted on the day that the battle of Morat was fought, as an emblem of Swiss liberty.

The state of society at Friburgh is extremely agreeable. The gentry are frank and hospitable, and blend French politeness with great simplicity of manners. Dinner is usually served at twelve, and supper at eight. Mr. Coxe says, he never met with a more cordial reception in any town of Switzerland than in this.

This canton is entirely Catholic, and its population amounts to between fifty and sixty thousand souls. The sovereign power resides in the great council of two hundred, including the senate of twenty-four.

The only persons capable of being members of this sovereign council, or of enjoying any share in the government, are the secret burghers, or a certain number of families, divided into four bannieres, or tribes. They are called secret burghers, in order to distinguish them from the
3 other

other artisans inhabiting the town, or the adjoining district. The latter enjoy the right of appointing the advoyers from a certain number of candidates, and of annually confirming the said magistrates; but the supreme authority rests absolutely in the council, supplied by a limited number of patrician families; consequently, the government is, in the strictest sense, aristocratical*.

In their route from hence to Berne, they made a small circuit, to the village of Neuneck, in order to see a hermitage about a mile from Friburgh, which has been highly extolled by travellers, on account of its singularity. It is formed in the solid rock; and its chief curiosity consists in its being the work of two men, who thus spent a great part of their time in laborious idleness.

The situation of this hermitage is beautiful. The rock in which it is cut overhangs the Sane. It consists of several apartments, hewed in the heart of the mountain. One room is ninety feet long and twenty broad: the spire of the chapel, if it may be so called, is eighty feet high, and the chimney of the kitchen ninety. The present hermit is a German, and with him lives an old soldier.

The entrance into Berne strikes a traveller with its singular neatness and beauty. The principal streets are broad and long, and gently winding. The houses are mostly uniform, built of a greyish stone, upon arcades. Through the middle of the street runs a lively stream of the clear-

* Since Mr. Coxe first published his letters on Switzerland, the government of Friburgh has undergone very important alterations; and many grievances, which the popular party laboured under, are redressed.

est water in a stone channel, while several fountains are not less beneficial than ornamental.

The river Aar almost surrounds Berne, winding its course over a rocky bed, in a deep channel. The Gothic cathedral stands upon a platform, raised at a great expence, and commands a most extensive view. The adjacent country is richly cultivated, and agreeably diversified with hills, lawns, wood, and water. The river flows rapidly below, and an abrupt chain of rugged and snow-clad Alps bounds the distant horizon.

According to the native historians, Berne was built by Berchtold V. duke of Zeeringen, and was from its foundation an imperial city. In the year 1353, it acceded to the Helvetic confederacy, and possessed such power at that time, as to obtain the second rank among the Swiss cantons. Its domains now form nearly a third of Switzerland, and about a fourth of the actual population. It contains about one hundred and seventy thousand souls, exclusive of eleven thousand in the capital. The reformed religion was early embraced, and permanently established here.

This canton is divided into two great parts: the Pays de Vaud and the German district; each of which has its treasurer and chamber of appeal, resident in the capital.

At Berne, society is extremely agreeable, and foreigners are received with abundant ease and politeness. The sexes mix in social intercourse, and dancing is a frequent amusement. There is a public ball once a fortnight; and, in winter, scarcely an evening passes without a private one.

These diversions commence as early as five in the afternoon, on account of a standing order of government, against their continuance after eleven.

eleven. English country dances are frequently introduced; but a species of allemande is the favourite dance of the natives. The parties arrange themselves in distinct couples, and follow each other in a circular direction, each gentleman turning his partner with great velocity.

The life and spirit of those dances are astonishing, and can never be conceived by such as have not seen them. The gaiety of these parties is still more enlivened, during the summer months, by the company resorting to a garden near the town, where they dance under an open pavilion, in rural festivity.

Little trade is carried on here; though some few manufactures have been established. The families, who enjoy any influence in public affairs, think it degrading to engage in any branch of commerce.

One general advantage, however, attends this anti-commercial spirit; for the members of government, not being interested in laying any restrictions on trade, do not, as at Zurich and Basle, confine the exclusive right of establishing manufactures to the burghers of the capital; but prudently extend that permission to all their subjects, without distinction of rank or place. Hence the comfortable state, and even the wealth, of the peasantry in the canton of Berne.

It deserves remark, that the lower classes, who have acquired opulence by manufactures, seldom quit their situation; and seem not only extremely attached to their country, but to their own modes of life, which they neither wish to vary themselves, nor to bring up their families with a prospect of doing.

The public buildings are constructed in a noble style

style of simplicity, and announce the grandeur and good sense of the republic. The arsenal contains arms for sixty thousand men, and a considerable quantity of cannon. The granary always is stocked with a large provision of corn, supplied in consequence of particular treaties, by France and Holland.

The charitable institutions are numerous, liberal, and well applied. The hospitals are large, clean, and airy; and in the alms-house is an establishment for furnishing distressed travellers with a meal and a lodging, and sixpence on their departure. If sick or wounded, they are maintained till their recovery.

The house of correction is extremely well regulated; and separate cells are allotted to the men and the women. Persons also, who are confined for smaller offences, have a different dress, and are entirely kept apart from greater delinquents. Both are constantly employed in cleaning the streets, and other servile employments. At other times they are taught to read and write, and are instructed in various trades, which may keep them from the danger of a relapse into crimes, when they regain their liberty. By these means, the expence of the establishment is nearly supported; and an honest livelihood assured to those who would otherwise prove useless, or obnoxious, to the community. After having earned their maintenance, the prisoners in the house of labour receive ten per cent, those in the house of correction eight per cent, for their extra labour.

Public justice is wisely and impartially administered; and the torture is now formally abolished. This humane and just act forms a distinguished era in the history of Swiss jurisprudence.

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The public library contains about twenty thousand volumes, a cabinet of Swiss coins and medals, and many curious manuscripts. Of these M. Sinner, a man of great erudition, has published a descriptive catalogue.

Learning, however, is not so universally encouraged as in other states; but the government seems to be sensible of this defect, and is taking effectual steps to remedy it.

A society for the promotion of physics, and natural history in general, and that of Switzerland in particular, has lately been established. The members have formed a regular correspondence with the literati throughout Europe; and are ready to answer the enquiries of foreign naturalists, who wish for local information.

The sovereign power resides in the great council of two hundred. The authority with which they are invested is, in some respects, the most absolute and uncontrolled of any among the aristocratical states of Switzerland; but there are various checks and modifications, which allow sufficient protection to civil liberty.

The executive powers of government are delegated by this sovereign council to the senate, chosen from their own body: the former assembles ordinarily thrice a week, and extraordinarily upon emergencies; the senate every day, except Sundays.

The senate, comprising the two advoyers, or chiefs of the republic, is composed of twenty-seven members; and from this select body is drawn the principal magistrates of the commonwealth.

At Easter, the reigning advoyer delivers up his authority, in full council, to his colleague. The advoyer in office sits on an elevated seat, under a canopy

canopy, and the seal of the republic is placed on a table before him. He never delivers his opinion, unless it be demanded: he has no vote, unless the numbers are equal, and, in that case, he has the casting voice. The advoyer out of office is the first senator in rank, and president of the secret council.

The canton of Berne is divided into a certain number of districts, called bailliages, over which bailiffs are chosen from the sovereign council; and these posts being the most lucrative in the disposal of government, are the great objects of ambition.

The several bailiffs are representatives of sovereign power in their respective districts. They enforce the execution of edicts, collect the public revenue, act as justices of the peace, and are judges in civil and criminal causes, except where there is any local jurisdiction. An appeal, however, in most cases, lies to the courts in Berne.

Although there are no standing armies in Switzerland, yet, in many of the cantons, and especially in Berne, the militia is under excellent regulations, and can be assembled at the shortest warning. Every male, at the age of sixteen, is enrolled; and about one-third of the whole number are distributed into regiments.

Every person, thus enrolled, is obliged to provide himself, at his own charge, with an uniform, a musket, and a certain quantity of powder and ball; and no peasant is allowed to marry, without producing his uniform and his arms.

Every year a certain number of officers are deputed by the council of war to inspect the arms of the soldiers, to complete the regiments, and exercise the militia. Besides this annual review,
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the regiments are occasionally exercised by veteran soldiers, commissioned for that purpose.

A certain number of regiments being thus always in preparation, signals are fixed on the most elevated spots, for assembling them in particular districts, where they receive marching orders.

Berne has hitherto produced but few men of distinguished literary talents; but has established her glory, in being the birth-place of Haller, who is himself a host. This great man, known by his works wherever science has been cultivated, was born in 1708, and after passing through many honourable employments, and producing a number of valuable publications, quitted this transitory scene in 1777, in the seventieth year of his age. He wrote, with equal facility, the German, French, and Latin tongues; and was so well acquainted with all the European languages, except the Russian, Polish, and Hungarian, as to converse with the natives in their respective idioms.

A person, who was well acquainted with him, says, "he possessed a fundamental knowledge of natural history; was well read in history, both ancient and modern, universal and particular; and uncommonly well versed in the state of agriculture, manufactures, trade, population, literature, and languages of the respective nations of Europe. He had read with attention, the most remarkable voyages and travels; and was particularly conversant in modern discoveries, which tend to illustrate the geography of the globe. He had even perused many thousand novels and plays; and possessed such a retentive memory, that he could detail their contents with the utmost precision."

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He derived from nature extreme sensibility, or rather irritability of temper, which is ever the attendant on genius. He spoke, therefore, from his own experience, when he thus expresses himself in a letter to Voltaire: "Providence holds, with an equal hand, the balance of human happiness. He has loaded you with riches, he has loaded you with glory; but misfortune was necessary, and he preserved the equilibrium by giving you sensibility. If my wishes could take effect, I would bestow on you that TRANQUILLITY, which flies at the approach of genius, which is inferior to genius in relation to society, but far superior in regard to ourselves."

M. Wytttenbach, one of the pastors of Berne, possesses a curious cabinet in natural history. It contains several thousand plants, among which is a large number of Alpine plants; an infinite variety of fossils, stones, and petrifications, shells, insects, and drawings. Our author, however, was most pleased with that part of his cabinet, comprehending those objects of natural history, which in any degree influence agriculture, physic, arts and trades. On this subject, M. Wytttenbach has published a dissertation in the Acts of the Economical Society at Berne.

This ample collection has not been formed from mere motives of curiosity, or with a desultory attention, but on systematic principles; to enable him to illustrate the natural history of Switzerland, in general; and to form a topographical and mineralogical description of the canton of Berne, in particular.

The environs of Berne are principally very delightful; and no road exhibits a more pleasing variety of hill and dale than that which leads to
Thun.

Thun. It runs through an agreeable country, winds through fertile meadows, enriched with dark forests of pine and fir, and occasional groves of beech and oak; while the cattle browsing on the slopes, add to the animation of the scene.

The comfortable state of the inhabitants is visible from the cultivation of the grounds, the number and neatness of the cottages and farm-houses, and other rural embellishments.

Thun lies about twelve miles from Berne, and occupies the bottom and brow of a hill, on both sides the Aar. It contains about one thousand two hundred inhabitants, and enjoys considerable immunities. The people employ themselves in carding and spinning silk, for the manufactories of Basle.

To the north-east stands, on an eminence, the church and castle. From the windows of the latter, which is the residence of the bailiff, our author enjoyed one of the finest and most extensive views of Switzerland. Below lies the town, standing in a rich plain, bounded by a chain of hills, clothed with firs, which extend from Berne to the mountain Niefs. To the east is a small ridge covered with vines and trees; and to the south-east part of the lake of Thun, bounded by hills rising to the Alps of Lauterbrunnen and Grindelwald.

From Thun, Mr. Coxe returned about six miles to the village of Masic, where he quitted the high road, and passed through pleasant fields and thickets, interspersed with cottages. After travelling about an hour and a half, he entered the road which leads from Berne to Langenau, and ascending to the village of Worbe, passed an agreeable day with an amiable family that had
given

given him an invitation to their house. The view from this hospitable mansion, he thinks, not inferior to that from the castle of Thun.

Mr. Coxe also made an excursion to Hindelbank, about four miles from Berne, to view the celebrated tomb of Madame Langhans, the work of Nahl, a Saxon sculptor. This great artist being employed on the monument of Count d'Erlach, was lodged in the house of his friend M. Langhans, a clergyman, when his wife, a woman of uncommon beauty, expired in child-bed on Easter eve.

Struck with the season of her death, animated by the recollection of her beauty, sympathizing with the afflictions of her husband, he instantly conceived, and in due time finished this impressive monument. It is placed in the body of the church, sunk into the pavement like a grave, and covered with two folding doors. When these are opened, a grave stone appears, as if just fissured into three parts, through which is half discovered the figure of a woman, slightly veiled with a shroud. She is represented at the moment of the resurrection. With her right hand she is gently raising that portion of the broken grave-stone that lies over her head; and in the other holds a naked infant, struggling with its little hands to emancipate itself from the tomb. The inscription is affecting and sublime. It contains no more than "Here am I, Lord, and the child whom thou gavest me," together with the name of the deceased, Anna Magdalena Langhans, born 1723, died 1751.

The artist has formed the whole sepulchre out of one block of sand stone. It is, however, to be regretted, that he had not used more permanent materials;

materials; for such a beautiful and affecting design deserves to last till the end of time. Indeed, the fine mausoleum, by the same sculptor, to the memory of Count d'Erlach, scarcely attracts a momentary attention; while this simple gravestone melts every heart of sensibility.

At Langenau our traveller paid a visit to a very famous Swiss quack, named Michael Schuppack, whose sagacity in discovering the seat of disorders, and applying suitable remedies, have gained him wonderful celebrity.

On their arrival at his house, they found the doctor in his apartment, surrounded by several peasants, who were consulting him on their respective complaints, each with a phial of urine, by which this medical sage pretends to judge of the state of the patient.

He was extremely corpulent, with a penetrating eye, and good humoured aspect. He was formerly a village surgeon, has a slight knowledge of anatomy, and is tolerably versed in botany and chemistry. His acquaintance with the theory of physic is said to be inconsiderable; but he derives great facility from his very extensive practice, yet he never stirs a quarter of a mile from his own house.

The doctor possesses many excellent qualities; humane and charitable to the highest degree, he not only furnishes the indigent, who consult him, with medicine gratis, but generally makes them a present of money besides; and he always appropriates a certain portion of his gains to the poor of his parish.

His wife and grand daughters are dressed like the peasantry of the country, and he has shewn his good sense in giving the latter a plain educa-

tion, and disposing the eldest of them early in marriage, to one of his assistants, that she might not, to use his own expression, be spoiled by the young gentlemen telling her that she was pretty.

The wife is a notable woman, and superintends the household affairs with remarkable activity. She assists her husband likewise in preparing his medicines, for which reason, added to her husband's disinterestedness, she receives many presents from such as benefit by his advice.

The family sit down to table regularly at twelve o'clock. There are always some strangers of the party, consisting, not only of patients, but travellers, attracted by curiosity. To all, the doctor gives a kind and a hospitable reception; while the benevolence of his character, his gaiety and good humour, and the happiness he endeavours to diffuse around him, give a charm to the entertainment, and render the simplest fare relishing.

This singular man is often employed ten or twelve hours a day in his profession. Our author consulted him out of curiosity, and was told that he had no occasion for any thing, but to eat and drink well, to dance, to be merry, and take moderate exercise*.

It being Langenau fair, when Mr. Coxé was here, the village was quite crowded with peasants. Great numbers of the men wore long beards, and many covered their heads with straw hats, extremely broad, which gave them a very grotesque appearance. Their dress was chiefly

* This celebrated empiric died in 1781, leaving ten thousand pounds, acquired by his practice, which sum he divided among his family in just and equitable proportions.

a coarse brown cloth jacket, without sleeves, with large puffed breeches of ticking. The women, who are remarkably handsome, wore their hair plaited behind in tresses, with the riband hanging down below the waist; a flat, plain, straw hat; a red or brown cloth jacket, without sleeves; a black or blue petticoat, bordered with red, scarcely reaching below the knees; and red stockings with black clocks. Their shifts were of very fine linen, and fastened close round the neck by a black collar, with red ornaments. The better sort wore silver chains between the shoulders, brought under each arm, and fastened beneath the bosom.

Taking leave of the hospitable Dr. Schuppach, Mr. Coxe set out from Langenau, in order to proceed to Avignon, on a visit to the Abbé de Sade, author of the Life of Petrarch. A senator of Soleure offered him a place in his carriage as far as Berne, which he thankfully accepted, and profited by this casual interview with an intelligent and worthy man.

Next day he repassed through Morat and Avenches, and slept at Payerne, a town in the canton of Berne. On the bridge over the Broye, at this place, is an ancient Roman inscription, which, as our author was attempting to decypher, a plain looking man accosted him, and observed, that he had often tried to make out the inscription, but without success. "Give me a page of plain Latin," said he, "and I will translate it from beginning to end; but for these N's I's and O's, I can't know what to make of them."

His next stage was Monden, a handsome town, and the principal burgh of a bailliage of the same name, and formerly the capital of that part of the Pays de Vaud, which belonged to Savoy.

He then re-entered the territory of Geneva ; but as that town and republic have already been described, we shall conclude this part of our ingenious traveller's labours, with some farther observations on Switzerland in general.

No part of Europe contains, within the same compass, so many independent commonwealths, and such a variety of governments as this romantic and delightful track ; yet with such wisdom was the Helvetic union composed, and so little have the Swiss been actuated by views of conquest, that since the complete establishment of their general confederacy, they have seldom waged war with a foreign enemy, and have been harassed by few civil commotions. Perhaps their long-enjoyed tranquillity is unique in the history of republics.

The happiness, however, of long uninterrupted peace, has neither broken the spirit nor enervated the arm of the Swiss. The youth are diligently trained to martial exercises, and a considerable number of well-disciplined troops are always employed in foreign service ; while the whole mass of the people are enrolled in the militia, and regularly exercised. By these means they are capable of collecting a very respectable body of forces, which would prove a formidable barrier against an invading enemy. Thus, while most other states of Europe are tending towards a military government, Switzerland, without any standing armies, is more secure from invasion than any other European power.

The felicity, however, of this country, does not consist merely in an exemption from the miseries and burden of war ; but in the general happiness and content of the people. For whether the government is aristocratical, democratical, or mixed,

mixed, a spirit of liberty pervades and actuates the several constitutions; and the property of the subject is guarded against every species of violation.

There is certainly, however, a considerable defect in the criminal jurisprudence of the country; for though the Caroline code forms the basis of the penal laws, too much latitude is allowed to the respective judges; who are less governed by any written law, than by the common principles of equity.

The prisons now begin to be under excellent regulations; but that disgrace to sense and reason, the trial by torture, is not yet universally exploded. It is, however, wearing out by degrees; in some states it is abolished by express laws; and in none do the magistrates defend its practice, though it is not formally abandoned.

Learning is more generally diffused among the Protestant, than the Catholic states; but in both, a man of letters will find abundant opportunities of gratifying his researches, and improving his knowledge. To the natural philosopher, Switzerland will afford an inexhaustible source of information and entertainment, as well from the great variety of physical curiosities, so plentifully spread over the country, as from the number of persons eminently skilled in that branch of science. Indeed, in every town, and almost every village, the curious traveller will meet with collections worthy of his attention.

With respect to agriculture, there are few countries where the effects of persevering industry, are more conspicuous. A traveller cannot pass the immense chains of hills and mountains, which intersect this country, without being de-

lighted to find cultivation carried on, where nature seems almost to have denied access. Woods clothe the most barren spots, and corn waves where it is scarcely possible for the plough to reach.

Thus having visited and described the Swiss cantons, our author, in his return from Italy, was anxious to render his tour more complete, by including the country of the Grisons. Accordingly, leaving Milan, in July 1779, he proceeded to Como, the birth-place of Pliny the younger, of which honour the natives are justly proud; and therefore they have placed his statue in a niche, on the outside of the church, with an inscription bearing date in 1499.

Como is pleasantly situated in a narrow vale, inclosed by fertile hills, on the southern extremity of the lake of the same name. It is surrounded by a wall strengthened with towers, and backed by a conical eminence, on which stands the ruins of an ancient castle. The houses are neatly built of stone, and the cathedral is a handsome edifice, of white marble, dug from the neighbouring quarries.

From Como he made an excursion to Mendrisio, one of the Italian bailliages belonging to the Swiss cantons. These bailliages, of which Mendrisio and Balerna is one of the smallest, were formerly part of the Milanese, and were ceded to the cantons by Maximilian Sforza, who was raised to the ducal throne by the Swiss, after they had expelled the troops of Louis XII. and taken possession of the duchy.

The inhabitants enjoy considerable privileges, civil, ecclesiastical, and commercial. The district
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is extremely fertile in vines, corn, and pasturage, and yields a great quantity of excellent silk.

On his return to Como, he embarked on the lake, the banks of which are richly wooded, and studded with villages and country seats.

After an hour's rowing, they came to Plinania, remarkable for a singular fountain, mentioned by Pliny. It bursts from a rock, close to a villa belonging to a Milanese nobleman, and falls in natural cascades into the lake.

This spring ebbs and flows thrice a day with amazing regularity, except in stormy weather. From being almost dry, it gradually rises, till it forms a considerable stream; and then as gradually subsides, till the period of its swell returns. The original passage, in which Pliny describes its ebb and flow, is written upon the wall of an adjoining apartment.

Having satisfied his curiosity here, he proceeded to Clarice, where he passed the night; and embarking again upon the lake, was overtaken by a violent thunder storm, to escape which they landed on the western side, at a small village.

The lake of Como is about thirty-six miles long, and two or three broad. Its navigation is occasionally dangerous, from the eddy between the mountains that enclose it.

The storm subsiding, they proceeded to Bellano, situated at the foot of a lofty precipice, rent from top to bottom by a chasm, through which a furious torrent forces its way. A bridge is thrown across, from whence the spectator looks down with terror into the gulph below.

They next proceeded to Domasio, in order to obtain permission of the governor to visit Fort Fuentes, which he very politely granted. A lit-
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tle above Domasio, the malaria, or unwholesome air, commences, from the swampy soil on both sides of the lake. The inhabitants, from this cause, are so subject to intermitting fevers, that they periodically leave the plain, and retire to the neighbouring mountains.

They found Collico nearly deserted, and the cottages shut up. Two miles beyond this, they arrived at the bottom of the rock on which stands Fort Fuentes, which, in the beginning of the last century, was so celebrated in the military annals of Europe.

It is built on an insulated rock, about a mile and a half from the nearest mountains, and two miles from the borders of the lake; so that it completely commands the only great opening which leads into the Valteline. The fortifications are very strong; though only three soldiers now do duty in the place, who are daily changed. A peasant and his wife, who had resided there for a year, had been constantly afflicted with an ague, from the pestilential effluvia of the marshes below.

The view from the fort is remarkably fine and picturesque, including the Valteline, the river Adda, the lake of Como and Chiavenna, beautifully encircled with numerous towns and villages.

Descending into the plain, they passed a range of square stones, which forms the boundary between the Milanese and the country of the Grisons. Traversing the banks of the Adda for some way, a very muddy and unpleasant stream, they again embarked at Dacio, and soon afterwards entered the lake of Chiavenna, belonging to the Grisons. The views of this lake are extremely
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wild and magnificent, surrounded as it is with barren, craggy rocks, and rising into spires sprinkled with snow.

Having procured some horses at Riva, they proceeded to Chiavenna, by moon-light. They found the villages almost entirely deserted, and the inhabitants withdrawn to the mountains, on account of the pestilential air. Indeed no other proof of its insalubrity is necessary, than the livid and wan appearance of the few natives that they saw by the way in this track.

Next morning they took an excursion to the site of Plurs, which was totally overwhelmed by the fall of Mont Conto in 1618. It was then a large and flourishing town, containing about one thousand five hundred inhabitants. The valley in which it was situated is very narrow; and the whole town was involved in one undistinguished ruin. It is said that the cloud of dust and rubbish was so great, as to cover the heavens like smoke to a considerable distance; and that the torrent Maira ceased to flow by Chiavenna for an hour, which spread such an alarm among the inhabitants, that they precipitately fled to the mountains.

Mr. Coxe walked over the spot where Plurs was built. Very few of the ruins are now to be seen, though dead bodies and household utensils are frequently dug up.

In the vicinity, stone vessels are still made, and much used as kitchen utensils. Pliny mentions this manufacture under the denomination of lapis comensis.

From Plurs they continued along the valley of Santa Croce, and entered the country of the Grisons,

Grisons* at Casta Segna, in the valley of Pregalia

At Bondo, in this valley, Count de Salis, formerly British envoy to the Grisons, has constructed a large and commodious house in the English taste. It is situated at the extremity of a little plain, and enjoys some enchanting views.

The peasants in Pregalia are well clothed, and appear comfortable. The whole number of inhabitants amounts to about one thousand eight hundred. They constitute a high jurisdiction in the league of God's House, and are divided into two independent communities, which enjoy a democratical form of government.

Each community has its general assembly, in which the sovereign power is vested; and every male at the age of eighteen has a vote.

In civil causes the landamman is president; and in criminal, the podesta. All the delinquencies are punished with great severity, and the remission or alleviation is entirely left to the judges, who generally take a commutation in fines from the rich, and suffer the poor to undergo the decree of the law.

The road through Pregalia to Coire admits carriages, but is very indifferently paved. They passed through several villages, the houses of which are of stone, plastered and white-washed.

Beyond Bondo, the country produces few trees but larch and fir: it yields grass, barley, and rye.

* The country of the Grisons consists of three leagues, each divided into a certain number of districts. The leagues are called the Grey League, the League of God's House, and the League of the Ten Jurisdictions, which when formed into a diet, have sixty-six representatives.

They stopped at a kind of an inn, where the landlord and his family spoke a kind of Italian jargon. A little farther, they entered Upper Engadina, where Romansh is the general tongue. These two languages are totally different.

Siglio, from which issues the river Inn, is a lake of about five miles in circumference, and is finely situated between high perpendicular rocks. The little plains, or valleys, on its banks, produce fine hay, which, at this season was mowing.

At Silva Piana, Mr. Coxe endeavoured to converse with the inhabitants; but could scarcely comprehend their meaning. He attended divine worship in the Romansh tongue, but was little edified by what he could not understand. The sermon was about an hour long, the prayers were very short; and the girls sung psalms, some of them with delightful voices.

St. Maurice, or Morezzo, is agreeably seated on the side of a hill, and overlooks a small lake, bounded by rising banks, and studded with woods and pasture. It is a village of Upper Engadina, and is celebrated for its mineral waters, of sovereign efficacy in curing various disorders. Lodging houses are erected for the accommodation of the sick, and in one of them, our author took up his abode. Here he met with a clergyman of Lower Engadina, whom he soon discovered to be an intelligent man.

In talking with him on the state of religion, among the reformed part of the Grisons, and particularly respecting the Pietists, a new sect, he found that the latter somewhat resembled the Methodists, in exalting faith above good works. They condemn all diversions, card-playing, and assemblies, as criminal; fancy visions, enjoy supernatural

pernatural inward illuminations, and employ so much time in prayer, as to neglect their ordinary business.

The clergy of this sect are generally ignorant and superficial, are vehemently vociferous in the pulpit, thunder out reprobation, and expatiate on justification, without explaining the methods of avoiding the former, or obtaining the latter.

In these parts, the dress of the women is singular, and not unbecoming. It consists of a black or blue jacket, with red sleeves; striped blue and white petticoats; a small black velvet cap, trimmed with gold or silver lace, with a black or white lace border hanging over the forehead.

From St. Maurice, our author made an excursion to the Julian columns, which Schewzer supposes to have been erected by Julius Cæsar, in order to mark the limits of his conquests; and asserts that *Ne plus ultra*, and *Omitto Rhæos indomitos*, are inscribed upon them.

They are of a circular shape, somewhat similar to Roman mile-stones, and are placed at about forty feet from each other. Their height above the ground is about four feet, and their circumference five. They have neither pedestal nor capital, and are flattish atop, with a small round hole in the middle, about four inches diameter, and six deep. They are formed by art, but in the rudest manner. Mr. Coxe could not see the least trace of any letters on them, though he examined them with particular attention.

Near these stones is a piece of water, called the Julian Lake, supplied from a glacier on the superincumbent mountain. The Julian Alps produce grass, but little wood, an incontestible proof of their great elevation.

They

They stopped at a cottage, the only house in the whole extent of these alps, and this is occupied only in summer. The tenants make large quantities of butter and cheese. Having taken a refreshing bowl of cream, they began to descend; and observed numerous small streams, which form the first sources of the Little Rhine.

Soon after, they met with some benevolent friars, who offered them their house and dinner, and furnished our author with several particulars relative to the government of this district.

The ride from St. Maurice to Zutz, through Celerina, Samada, Ponto, and Madulein, is extremely pleasant. These villages lie chiefly on the easy slopes of the mountains, gently rising above a plain, through which the Inn meanders.

The Inn, during its progress in these parts, very unlike other alpine streams, directs its course through a cultivated and populous district, in an equable and unbroken stream. The country is picturesque, and its beauties are of a milder cast than are usual among the alps. The burghs, or villages, are pleasantly dotted about the plain, and contain from fifty to one hundred houses each.

These habitations are uniformly neat. Indeed, the spirit of neatness is every where perceptible in Upper Engadina.

As our author was riding through Bever, the clergyman of the place, who was smoking his pipe at the door, stopped him with a compliment, and afterwards invited him to see his library. It consisted of some English books, and many in the Romanish language, particularly the Bible, printed at Coire, and dedicated to George II. when prince of Wales.

He then accompanied our traveller a little way, and shewed him a single house, called Alles Angnes, where the deputies of the two communities of Upper Engadina assemble, for the purpose of deciding, in the last resort, appeals in civil causes.

After crossing the Inn several times, they arrived at Zutz, which, though not the largest, is esteemed the principal place in this district. They immediately waited on M. Planta, formerly envoy from the republic of the Grisons to Venice, and who had been engaged in several important negotiations.

This gentleman accompanied them to the camp of Drusus, as it is called, where that distinguished general fought against, and conquered the Rhetians. The supposed remains of his camp consist of several deep pits, and a mound of earth, about thirty feet high, and sixty paces in circumference.

These works did not appear to Mr. Coxe to be of Roman construction: probably they are nothing more than a rude fortification, thrown up during the turbulent times, when the barons of the country were engaged in perpetual acts of hostility; and have been ascribed to Drusus, from national vanity.

The little burghs, situated in these parts, are all within a moderate walk of each other; and Mr. Coxe was so delighted with the country and its inhabitants, that he wished to prolong his stay among them. Hence his daily journeys were very short, and he generally procured an introduction to some person of note, at each stage.

On his arrival at Scampf, he carried a letter of recommendation to M. Aporta, the clergyman of the place; a man of an illustrious family, but who, after a learned education, was glad to accept

cept the cure of souls, with an income scarcely amounting to twenty pounds a year; yet his living is one of the best in Engadina.

Being a man of literature, he has produced several valuable works; among others, the History of the Reformation among the Grisons, written in Latin, in a classical and perspicuous style. This publication, of such deep research and national importance, has never produced any emolument to the author; and Mr. Coxe says, he could not help looking up with reverence to a person, who, under so many disadvantages, could have the resolution to accomplish so much for the good of the public, rather than his own private interest.

Upper Engadina is divided into two communities: they have both, however, the same court of criminal justice, which is more equitably administered than in most of the jurisdictions of the Grisons; a circumstance arising from some excellent original institutions, which still remain here in force.

Upper Engadina is a beautiful valley, but so elevated, that it produces nothing but pasture, and a small quantity of rye and barley. The winter is of long duration; and, even in summer, the air is so cold and piercing, that the corn is occasionally damaged by it.

As the district does not yield sufficient to maintain the inhabitants, many of them migrate into foreign countries. The gentry pursue the military line; and others seek a living by the exercise of mechanic arts; by becoming petty dealers; or opening coffee-houses and cook-shops, in different parts of France and Italy. Generally two persons enter into partnership to carry on the same trade; one stays at home, while the other

attends to the foreign business for a year, when he is relieved by his partner, and returns to his family for the same term. These partners are generally as faithful as they are industrious; and annually bring considerable sums of money into their native district.

Numerous flocks are fed in the Upper Alps, adjoining Engadina, and large quantities of butter and cheese are exported. In the autumn, when pasture begins to fail, a great part of the cattle is sent into the Tyrol, for sale.

The inhabitants live much on salted meat; and their bread is baked in little round cakes, only twice or thrice a year. Hence, though not unpleasant to the taste, it becomes so hard, as sometimes to require being broken with a hatchet. Wine keeps here to a great age, and is neither scarce nor indifferent.

The natives are remarkably polite and well bred, and possess a native civility, which inclines them to perform kind offices, with a promptness and pleasure that is delightful. Our author, indeed, was no less charmed with the manners of the people, than with the romantic scenery of the country.

In his road to Lower Engadina, he passed near Brail, a small bridge thrown over a precipice, and overlooking a foaming cataract. This is the line of separation between the two districts. Beyond this bridge is a wild, and almost uninhabited, track of forest, which reaches to Cernetz.

Cernetz stands in a rich plain, of small extent, bounded by two ridges of mountains, converging at both extremities. Wheat, barley, rye, and flax, are plentifully produced in this spot, and the air is sensibly more mild than in Upper Engadina.

In

In this plain the Inn is joined by the large torrent Spœlg, which descends from the mountains of Bormio. By the side of this torrent, and at the extremity of a narrow pass, Mr. Coxe observed a square tower, which, in 1624, the Marquis of Cœuvres garrisoned with a body of French and Grisons, in order to check the motions of the Austrian army, posted near Munster. The pass is still farther fortified by a stone wall, carried from the foot of an inaccessible rock to the tower, and from thence to the torrent.

The road from Cernetz to Schuol is a continual ascent and descent, so rocky and bad, that in eighteen hours riding, they only advanced twenty miles.

Suz is situated in a narrow pass between the river Inn and a contiguous ridge of rocks, a little beneath the ruins of an old castle; and adjoining is a small fertile plain, agreeably diversified with rock and forest scenery.

The road to Adretz follows the course of the Inn, which murmurs below in a dark, narrow channel, and is heard, but not seen. From Adretz they descended to the river Inn, which they crossed, and mounting a rapid ascent, passed through the straggling village of Trasp, and close to a castle of the same name, built on the highest point of a perpendicular rock. The formality of a garrison is observed in this castle by a single Austrian foldier.

From Schuol to Remus, the mountains on the left slope gradually, and are richly cultivated: they produce great quantities of wheat, rye, barley, flax, and hemp, with pines, fir, and birch, intermixed with underwood. The ridges of mountains on the right, beyond the Inn, are steep, and

in many places perpendicular, with little appearance of vegetation.

It being now harvest time, our author says he observed several clergymen employed in reaping the corn. Though it is a pity that the clergy of any country should be obliged to submit to servile drudgery, for want of a decent support; yet, surely, they cannot be more innocently engaged, than in agriculture, which is at once salutary to health and self-enjoyment.

They stopped at Remus to bait, near which town is a ruined castle, which formerly belonged to the bishop of Coire, and was presented by one of them to the Plantas of Zutz; in right of which donation, they claim the privilege of administering the oath to the landamman of the district.

The form of government in Lower Engadina is very complicated. It is divided into three communities, which send deputies to the general diet. In civil causes, there are two separate courts of justice, from which an appeal lies in the last resort to the civil tribunal of Sotto Fontana Merla.

In criminal causes, there are likewise two distinct courts, but without appeal.

Party runs very high both in Upper and Lower Engadina. In these districts, the two most considerable families are those of De Salis and Planta, both divided into numerous collateral branches. The history of this country is full of the disputes and struggles between these rival houses, and presents, in many periods, little more than a disgusting and uniform picture of domestic feuds.

Though Lower Engadina is incomparably the most fertile, yet the inhabitants are less industrious, and consequently poorer. In Upper Engadina, our traveller was always able to procure tolerable

lerable accommodation and provifion, at the ordinary inns; but was often difappointed in this refpect in the Lower. The villages are lefs commodious, and the houfes are neither fo clean nor comfortable.

This difference arifes, in fome meafure, from the nature of the country: Upper Engadina, yielding but few productions, the inhabitants are obliged to seek from without fome means of fubfiftence; and induftry, once excited, brings with it, as an attendant, opulence. On the contrary, the foil of Lower Engadina, fertile in all the fruits of the earth, impofes no neceffity on the inhabitants of extraordinary exertion, nor drives them to emigration or foreign trade.

Between Remus and St. Martin's Bridge, being overtaken by a ftorm of rain, Mr. Coxe took fhelter in the cottage of an old woman, who received him with cheerful politenefs. Befides the Romanfh, ſhe ſpoke German and Italian; and feemed to have received an education far above what her prefent fituation would have indicated. On taking leave, after the ftorm ceafed, our author returned due thanks for the hofpitality he had received, and endeavoured to flip a piece of money into her hand; but which, he was furprifed to find, ſhe declined.

These circumftances exciting his curiofity, he was induced to make fome enquiries refpecting the old lady; and difcovered that ſhe was of a good family in this country, and, that ſhe had married a nobleman from Milan, with whom ſhe lived in great harmony, till all her fortune was diffipated. He then quitted her, with a promife to return in a very ſhort time; but from that day ſhe never ſaw him, nor heard from him. It was,

was, however, rumoured, that he had gone to Italy, and turned monk. Believing this intelligence to be true, his wife collected the scanty remains of her fortune, and retired to the cottage where Mr. Coxe found her.

St. Martin's Bridge forms the boundary between Engadina and the Tyrol. Here the Inn quits the territory of the Grisons, and passing through Tyrol and the electorate of Bavaria, joins the Danube at Passau, with such a volume of water, as to equal, if not surpass, the celebrated stream in which it loses its name.

From Nanders they proceeded along a pleasant valley, bounded on the left by a ridge of mountains, which separates Tyrol from Engadina. At the end of this valley, they came to a gentle ascent, on the other side of which lies the lake that proves the first source of the Adige. In one of the villages in this vicinity they passed the night.

Next morning, they started early, with an intention of reaching Bormio that day. The country was agreeable, and in a high state of cultivation. Beyond Mals, they turned short into the road that leads to the valley of Munster; and a little beyond Tauven, passed the barrier, and again entered the territory of the Grisons.

They stopped at Munster to see a monastery for women, from which the town and valley derive their name. It is said to have been founded by Charlemagne. They could not be admitted within the walls, as being contrary to the rule of all nunneries; and therefore proceeded, almost immediately, to Santa Maria.

The valley of Munster forms a community in the League of God's House. The people are divided into Catholics and Protestants; and the magistrates

magistrates and judges are chosen equally from both parties, who live together in tolerable harmony.

The passage from Santa Maria to Bormio was very tedious, and, in some seasons, is not unattended with danger. They ascended to the top of Mont Bralio, which body of alps is supposed to be mentioned by Tacitus, under the appellation of Juga Rhætica. Here they traced the torrent of Ramo, which falls into the Adige to its source; and a few paces beyond, they observed another torrent falling in a contrary direction, which gives rise to the Adda.

From this point a descent commences, and continues, with little interruption, to Bormio.

The tops of these mountains produce no wood, but afford excellent pasturage. The most elevated parts are composed of granite.

In a short time, they entered the country of Bormio, and, following the course of the Adda over a small plain, they again ascended, and travelled over as craggy and wild a track, to Bormio, as any in Switzerland; exhibiting huge piles of mishapen alps, and masses of ice and snow.

Close to the path, the Adda foams, from precipice to precipice, in broken cataracts; till falling into a narrow channel, it labours with incessant fury to get through.

Over this tremendous gulph is a slight wooden bridge, partly supported by a detached fragment of rock, and partly suspended on the sides of the opposite mountains. As they passed, it tottered with their weight.

Soon after, turning to the left, by an opening, through which the Adda seems to have forced a passage, they discovered some fertile fields lying
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on the side of a distant mountain, which beautifully contrasted with the wild and uncultivated scenes they had just quitted.

In about half an hour they reached the Baths of St. Martin, in the valley of Premaglia, formed by several hot springs, of the nature of Bath, and much frequented by valetudinarians, in the summer season.

Soon after, they arrived at Bormio, where every thing began to assume an Italian aspect; and the villages are very inferior to those of the Grisons.

The county of Bormio, subject to the Grisons, lies in the midst of the Rhetian Alps. It is entirely enclosed by mountains, except a narrow opening which connects it with the Valteline. The other accesses to it lie across the rugged Alps, and in winter are impassable.

This county of Bormio, formerly a part of the Milanese, is divided into five districts, and enjoys very ample immunities. The supreme magistrate is called Podesta. He is appointed by the Grisons, and continues in office two years. His authority, however, is so extremely circumscribed, that he can scarcely do a single act without the concurrence of the councils; nor has he even a vote in them, except in cases of equality.

The criminal court, or council of sixteen, is changed every four months. Its powers are very extensive, and the horrid and disgraceful use of the torture is sometimes had recourse to.

The civil tribunal consists of twelve members, taken from the town of Bormio, who determine in the first instance; but from their decision an appeal lies to the syndicate of the Grisons.

The expences of the government are regulated with a democratical jealousy; and the accounts are annually submitted to the inspection of each district, where they undergo a minute investigation by chosen examiners. The revenue of the whole country does not much exceed two hundred pounds a year; yet this sum is nearly adequate to the expences of its government, and the deficiency is made up by an equal assessment.

The mountainous parts of this district produce only pasturage and wood; the lower parts, about Bormio, yield corn, but not sufficient for domestic consumption. Cattle, cheese, and iron, are exported in considerable quantities; while wine, corn, rice, and cloth, form the principal articles of importation.

Popery is the established religion, and the exercise of every other is prohibited. The priests have peculiar privileges, which are even extended to those who wear a clerical dress. Many abuses result from these exorbitant immunities; yet the people are generally free, happy, and comfortable.

The town of Bormio is situated at the foot of the mountains, close to the torrent of Fredolfo, which falls into the Adda. It contains about one thousand inhabitants, but has a desolate appearance. The houses are of stone plastered, and many of them have paper windows, in the Italian style, though the climate by no means is the same.

The landlord of the inn where our author lodged, was one of the regents, and the podesta and his wife sat down with him to the same table. The podesta had been lately appointed, and it was visible, from his conversation, that he had little knowledge of the principles of his government.

The palazzo, or town-house, contains a suit of wretched apartments, for the residence of the podesta, a chamber for the courts of justice, and an apartment where the representatives of the people assemble. In one of the rooms is an engine of torture, which, in spite of reason and humanity, is still used to extort confession.

Mr. Coxe, being desirous to examine the archives, all the magistrates assembled with their keys to open the door of the apartment where they are kept. He found them in the greatest disorder, but containing many records relative to the history and constitution of Bormio. The earliest of these acts is dated in 1378.

Quitting Bormio, they passed along the narrow valley of Cepino. Having crossed the Adda, in three hours, they came to the pass of La Serra, where that river fills the whole space, except a small path.

This path runs under the gateway of an ancient tower, and leads from the country of Bormio into the Valteline. At Sonaldo, the valley widens, and becomes more and more fertile, especially about Tirano. The left ridge of mountains is clothed with forest trees, intermixed with a few vines; the ridge, fronting the southern sun, is planted with vines to its top; and, on both sides, the churches and houses are half concealed by the foliage.

Tirano is the capital of a district, and the residence of the podesta. This town contains some handsome buildings, yet the general appearance is desolate. The Adda divides it into two parts, which are joined by a stone bridge, of a single arch. Little trade is carried on here, except during the time of the fair. The staple commerce
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of the town is the exportation of wine and silk; the former of which is sent in large quantities into the country of the Grisons.

About half a mile from the town is the church of Madonna, or the Virgin Mary, much visited by Catholic pilgrims. It is a large handsome building, constructed with marble, and stone, stuccoed. The principal entrance is formed by two Corinthian pillars, ornamented with foliage and festoons of flowers, while the pilasters are neatly adorned with basso relievos in the style of the antique.

In the large area before this church, the fair of Tirano is held, in the month of October. This lasts for three days, and is remarkable for the number of cattle brought there for sale. During the fair, the authority of the podesta is suspended; and the governor of the Valteline has absolute jurisdiction over the town and district.

The Valteline extends from the confines of Bormio to the lake of Chiavenna, about fifty miles in length. It is wholly enclosed between two chains of high mountains, which separate it from the Grisons and the duchy of Milan.

The Valteline was formerly subject to the bishop of Coire; but in 1530, the republic of the Grisons obtained the whole sovereignty; and amidst frequent internal commotions, and foreign attacks, have still preserved it. In 1620, a dreadful conspiracy broke out, under the mask of religion, and the unhappy Protestants were massacred without mercy for three successive days. Even women and infants were slaughtered with the most deliberate cruelty.

In the midst of this dreadful carnage, one instance of singular humanity deserves to be re-

corded. Bartholomeo Peretti, the principal Catholic at Berbeno, being exhorted to put all the Protestants of that town to death, apprized them of their danger, and assisted them in effecting an escape. But this act of clemency was his own destruction, and he suffered as an enemy to religion, to which, in fact, he did honour by his conduct.

The Valteline is divided into three principal geographical districts, and into five governments. The three districts are, Terzero di Sopra, or the Upper District; Terzero di Mezzo, or the Middle District; and Terzero di Setto, or the Lower District.

The five governments are those of the Upper District, of the Middle District, of Teglio, of Morbegno, and of Traona.

Each of these five governments is subject to a magistrate, appointed by the Grisons, who is changed every two years. The magistrate of the Middle District, is styled Governor of the Valteline, and possesses, in some respects, a superior degree of authority to the others, who are denominated Podestàs. He is also captain general of the Valteline.

These magistrates, as representatives of the sovereign state, enjoy the supreme authority, and are intrusted with the power of life and death; and though they are apparently controlled by the laws, they devise means to evade them. But there are various restraints laid upon them, to secure the liberty of the subject, and prevent partiality. All, however, are ineffectual, as pardons may be purchased with money, which at once gives an encouragement to convictions, and sanctions the commission of crimes.

All public concerns, which do not fall under the jurisdiction of the Grisons, are discussed and terminated by a council composed of five representatives, one from each district, which meets, as occasion requires, at Sondrio. In all affairs of importance, the representatives are bound to vote in conformity to instructions received from their constituents, and all transactions are decided by a majority of voices.

The tribute which the Valteline pays to the Grisons is so small, the salaries of the governors so inconsiderable, and all duties so trifling, that this has been considered as one of the most happy, and the least oppressed of all subject provinces; without reflecting how unable the country is to bear even the moderate taxes that are imposed on it.

The clergy of the Valteline are not responsible to the ordinary courts of justice, their immunities being so exorbitant, as to render them almost independent of the civil authority. They are only amenable to the bishop of Como. If a priest is guilty of any misdemeanour, his person cannot be secured without the concurrence of the bishop and the governor of the district, in which the crime was committed. Hence it is extremely difficult to bring an ecclesiastic to justice, as impunity is easily purchased, either by securing the favour of the bishop's vicar or of the magistrates. Nor are these pernicious privileges confined merely to the clergy, but extend to all persons wearing an ecclesiastical dress, by the permission of the bishop of Como.

The Grisons have repeatedly tried, without effect, to annihilate these immunities, no less destructive to the rights of society, than injurious

to morals. The nobles of the Valteline, however, are interested in supporting the privileges of the clergy, because they sometimes procure the permission of wearing the ecclesiastical dress, and because they can secure their property, by leaving their estates to the church, after the extinction of all the heirs named in the succession. Such estates are called *beneficia gentilicia*, and cannot be seized for debt, or confiscated.

Instead of proceeding from Tirano to Sondrio, the nearest way, our author made a circuit by Teglio, passing over the plain of Tirano, rich in all the products of nature, and sprinkled with villages, embosomed in thick groves of chestnut trees.

Teglio is the capital of a government of the same name. It is situated on the top of a mountain, and contains about three hundred houses. Close by the town are the ruins of a fortress standing on an insulated rock, and formerly esteemed of great strength. It commands a most extensive prospect.

Teglio is a very populous district for its size, and contains about eight thousand souls. In favourable seasons, it produces more corn than is sufficient for the consumption of its inhabitants, and rivals any part of the Valteline in the goodness of its wines.

From this place, which afforded but little to gratify curiosity, Mr. Coxe proceeded to Sondrio, the capital of the valley, and the residence of the governor and of the vicar. It has a deserted appearance; and there is little appearance of trade, and no animation. The town is built on a very romantic situation, at the extremity of a narrow valley, and occupies both sides of the Malenco, which

which frequently overflows its banks. Many of the houses are very ancient.

The Valteline, from its vicinity to Italy, has imbibed a taste for the fine arts, and contains many collections of pictures not unworthy of notice. Pietro Ligario, however, is the only painter of eminence it has produced, and his name is little known beyond the limits of his native country. He was born at Sondrio in 1686, and died in 1752, in the sixty-seventh year of his age.

There is scarcely a church in the Valteline that does not possess one of his pictures. The most capital are the martyrdom of St. Gregory, in one of the churches of Sondrio, and St. Benedict, in the chapel of a nunnery near that town. These are finished with great labour and exactness, contrary to his usual custom, and may be considered as the test from which his abilities, as a painter, are to be estimated.

Ligario is described by connoisseurs as a painter who united correctness of design to beauty of colouring. He is remarkable for grouping his figures to the best advantage, and his heads are drawn with a noble simplicity. He was, however, too close an imitator of the antique; and his figures often resemble statues, particularly in their drapery. The character of his faces is chiefly Grecian; but it is remarked that they are too similar to each other, and look like portraits of the same family.

Our author took a ride to see the painting of St. Benedict by this master, at the nunnery, a little way from Sondrio. After he had satisfied himself in this respect, the abbess sent a message, desiring the favour of his company in the parlour.

On entering it, he made his obeisance to the abbess and two nuns, who were seated on the other side of the grate. After the usual compliments, wine and cakes were brought in. The wine was the produce of their own vineyards, and was excellent in its kind; the cakes were shaped like skulls and bones.

The abbess and nuns behaved with great care and politeness, asking many questions relative to England. One of them apologized for their curiosity, by remarking that women were no less inquisitive or fond of talking, because they were shut up in a nunnery.

The person, who made this remark, was pale, and it was evident she had once been remarkably handsome. Mr. Coxe says he was informed, that a disappointment in love first induced her to take the veil, and to bury so much beauty and elegance in a convent.

He afterwards made an excursion to Morbegno and Delebio, near the extremity of the Valteline. Morbegno lies on the left side of the Adda, and is the handsomest town in the Valteline, at the same time that it is the most commercial.

M. Planta, whom our author previously met with at Cernetz, being then podesta of Morbegno, no sooner heard of his arrival, than he politely invited him to his house. Finding that he was desirous of proceeding to Delebio, M. Planta immediately ordered his carriage and accompanied him thither.

“ I am happy,” says Mr. Coxe, “ to find, from all quarters, that this gentleman may be reckoned among the few who do honour to human nature, and who act with integrity in a land of extortion. When vicar of the Valteline, he discharged

charged the duties of that important office with credit, and has entered on his new government with the same spirit of disinterested uprightness. There is a pleasure in receiving acts of politeness in a foreign country; but it is a double satisfaction to be obliged to persons, whose characters are deserving of the highest esteem."

The road from Morbegno to Delebio runs along the foot of the chain of mountains which separates the Valteline from the Venetian territories. The Valteline gradually expands, as they advanced towards the lake of Como. In this part the whole plain is chiefly a morass, exposed to the inundations of the Adda.

On their return to Morbegno, Mr. Coxe supped with M. Planta, and was afterwards entertained with an excellent concert.

The romantic beauties of the Valteline are greatly heightened by the numerous remains of ancient fortresses and castles, scattered throughout the country. They were all dismantled after the capitulation of Milan in 1639, from a recent experience that the inability of the Grisons to furnish them with sufficient garrisons, exposed them to the enemy, and rendered them, for the most part, a source of annoyance rather than protection.

Such an absolute confidence is reposed by the Grisons in the guaranty of the country by the house of Austria, that they do not maintain a single foldier throughout the whole Valteline.

The chief commerce of this country is carried on with Milan and the Grisons. The principal exports are wine and silk, which turns the balance of trade in favour of the people of the Valteline

teline, and enables them to exist without manufactures.

On a gross calculation, about seventy-three thousand horse-loads of wine are annually exported, on an average, worth twenty shillings sterling per load. The silk is sent to England and other countries. Not less than three thousand pounds weight of the finest sort are exported to Britain only, by the way of Ostend, every year.

Besides these commodities, the Valteline exports planks, cheese, butter, and cattle. The imports are corn, rice, salt, filken stuffs, cloth, linen, spices, coffee, and sugar. The population of the Valteline may be reckoned at sixty-two thousand souls.

The cottages of the peasants are built of stone, but are generally gloomy, from the want of glass windows. In all there is an uniform appearance of dirt and poverty. The peasantry are mostly covered with rags, and the children have an unhealthy look, which arises from the wretched manner of living.

The poor are sometimes reduced to the last necessity for want of bread, and numbers occasionally perish of want.

Many reasons may be assigned for the wretchedness of the people. Though the soil is extremely fertile, such are the defects of the government, and the oppressions of the governors, that neither life nor property are secure.

Add to this, few of the peasants are land-owners; and the tenants do not pay their rent in money but in kind, a convincing proof of the general poverty. The peasant is at all the cost of cultivation, and delivers near half the produce to the

the landlord. The remaining portion would ill compensate his labour and expence, were he not befriended by the fertility of the soil. The ground seldom requires to lie fallow, and the richest parts of the valley produce two crops. The first crop is wheat, rye, or spelt, half of which is delivered to the proprietor : the second crop is generally millet, buck-wheat, maize, or Turkey corn, which is the chief nourishment of the common people. The principal part of this crop belongs to the peasant, and, in a plentiful year, enables him to support his family in some degree of comfort.

Besides the business of cultivating corn or wine, some of the peasants attend to the produce of silk. For this purpose, they receive the eggs from the landholder, rear the silkworms, and are entitled to half the silk. This employment is the more profitable, as it is chiefly intrusted to the women, who have no other more advantageous mode of spending their time.

With all the advantages, however, derived from the fertility of the soil, and the variety of its productions, the peasants cannot, without the utmost difficulty and constant exertions, maintain their families; and they experience the greatest distress, whenever the season is unfavourable to agriculture.

Quitting Sondrio, Mr. Coxe went up the fertile valley of Malenco, the inhabitants of which appear better fed and clothed than in any other part of the Valteline. In consequence of their distance from government, they are less oppressed, and for the most part possess a small portion of land.

He passed the night in a solitary hut at the bottom of the Muret; and next morning mounted
a rug-

a rugged ascent in the channel of a small stream, and gaining the top of the Muret, passed over a large mass of ice and snow.

In these Alpine situations, within the space of a few hours, the traveller sees nature in all her shapes. In the Valteline, she is rich and fertile: here she is barren and horrid. These regions, indeed, are so dreary and desolate, that were it not for an occasional passenger, the flight of a few birds, or the goats browsing on the rugged Alps, the scene would appear quite inanimate.

From the top of Muret, he descended into a craggy, desolate, and uninhabited country, and noticed the gradual increase of vegetation, as he approached the road leading to Chiavenna. This passage over the Muret, which serves for the transportation of wine and other merchandise from the Valteline to the Grisons, is only open about five months in the year.

Having reached Chiavenna, Mr. Coxe was seized with a rheumatic disorder, which confined him in these parts for six weeks. He thinks he caught this by extraordinary fatigue, and by sleeping at the bottom of the Muret in a hay loft, for want of a bed, where he suffered much from the piercing north wind that blew from the glacier.

Chiavenna, the capital of a county, is situated at the foot, and on the side of a mountain, and contains about three thousand souls. The inhabitants carry on but little commerce. One of the principal articles of exportation is raw silk, of which the county produces about three thousand six hundred pounds annually.

The environs are covered with vineyards, but the wine is of a meagre sort, and only a small quantity

quantity is exported. The great support of Chiavenna is the transport of merchandise, this town being the principal communication between the Milanese and Germany. From hence the goods are sent either by Coire into Germany, or through Pregalia and the Engadinas into the Tyrol.

A small duty is imposed by the Grisons on all merchandise passing through Chiavenna, which is usually farmed for about one thousand two hundred pounds annually.

The fortress, seated on the summit of a rock, and now in ruins, is the principal object of curiosity in this neighbourhood. It is celebrated in the history of the Grisons, for its almost impregnable strength. The only road that leads to it, is steep and craggy. The walls occupy a large space of ground, and are now chiefly covered with vines.

The strongest part of this fortress was constructed on an insulated rock, rent, as it is supposed, from the contiguous mountain by some violent convulsion of nature. It is on all sides absolutely perpendicular, and its only communication with the castle, was formed by a draw bridge, thrown across the intervening chasm. The length is above two hundred and fifty feet, the height two hundred, and its greatest distance from the adjoining rock twenty feet. Though deemed impregnable, this keep has been taken at different periods, most commonly by stratagem or famine.

Close to Chiavenna is a rock of asbestos, a kind of mineral substance, of which incombustible linen is made. It was manufactured by the ancients principally for shrouds, in which the corpse being put and placed on the funeral pile, the ashes were preserved from being mixed with those

those of the wood. The art of weaving this cloth is now said to be lost ; but as the chief use to which it was applied no longer exists, it is probable that few give themselves the trouble to make the experiment. Many fine specimens of asbestos are also found in the mountains that border the valley of Malenco.

Quitting Chiavenna, Mr. Coxe entered the valley of St. Giacomo, which is watered by the torrent Lira. It is an appendant to Chiavenna, and contains ten parishes, under the jurisdiction of a commissary.

This valley has its own code of civil jurisprudence, and courts independent of the commissary, from which there lies no appeal.

The lower part of the valley produces vines and corn : the upper, rye, barley, and pasture, intermixed with groves of pine and fir. In it stands the church of St. Guglielmo, erected in honour of William, king of Sicily, the last of the Norman line, which commenced in Roger, who conquered Sicily from the Saracens, in the latter end of the eleventh century.

From Isola, the ascent is steep and rugged to the top of Mount Splungen. Our traveller passed by the side of the Lira, which roars from precipice to precipice in most stupendous cataracts. The road is hewn in the solid rock, and in many parts has the appearance of steps.

Towards the summit of Splungen, is an oval plain, about two miles long and one broad, encircled with craggy points. At the extremity of this plain they halted at the only house by the way. Before the door were at least one hundred horses laden with merchandise: three hundred are said to pass daily, at this season of the year.

Gently

Gently ascending from the plain, they observed the source of the Lira, and soon after crossed the highest ridge, on the other side of which the torrents flow towards the Rhine.

The territory of the Grey League, into which they now entered, occupies all the eastern track of this mountainous country, and is by far the most considerable of the three Grison leagues, both for extent and population. It was formerly subject to the abbot of Disentis, the counts of Weidenburg, of Sax, of Masox, and the baron of Retzuns, which titles are still nominally preserved. In 1424 the foundation of the present government was laid.

Splungen, situated on the rise of a hill, at the bottom of a rugged chain of alps, is the principal place in the vale of Rheinwald, that forms a high jurisdiction of the Grey League. The inhabitants of this valley speak German, though they are entirely surrounded with people who use a different language.

On the other side of Mount Splungen, they quitted the Italian climate and productions; for the air of the Rheinwald is so piercing, that it verifies the proverb, which says, "there are nine months winter, and three months cold."

From Splungen to Arder, the road continues by the side of the Hynder Rhine, through a mountainous region, which presents at every step the most awful magnificence of scenery.

Entering the valley of Schams, which is lower and more fertile than the Rheinwald, they crossed the Rhine, and soon after came into the Via Mala, so called from the supposed dangers and difficulties of passing it. Our author, however,

says he had not occasion once to alight from his horse: the road even admits carriages.

Perhaps the peculiar gloom of the valley, added to the original badness of the path, may have conspired to obtain for it the present appellation. It runs through a dark and uninhabited valley, overspread in many parts with thick forests, that only admit a twilight gloom, while the Rhine roars at the bottom, sometimes to be seen, but always to be heard. Over this river, on one place, is a stone bridge of a single arch, which presents a very sublime scene.

Having passed the bridge, they entered a subterraneous passage, cut for some paces through the overhanging rock, and a little farther crossed a second bridge, similar to the first.

Soon after quitting the Rhine, they began ascending an uninhabited country, till they came to Roncalia, in the community of Tufis. From thence they proceeded to the town of Tufis, said to have been built by the Tuscans. It stands at the commencement of the valley of Tomliasca, and is well known in the history of the Grisons for the court of justice which sat here in 1618, to try persons accused of holding a correspondence with Spain, and of opposing the introduction of the Protestant religion into the Valteline. One of the most eminent men, who fell under the sentence of this iniquitous tribunal, was Nicholas Rusca, a native of Bedano, who, by one party, has been represented as a saint, by the other as an assassin.

From Tufis they continued their route along the valley Tomliasca, by the side of the Rhine which here separates the Grey League from that of God's House. Numerous castles, towns, and villages

villages lie agreeably scattered through the vale in the most romantic situations.

Proceeding to Retzuns, they turned a little out of the way, to see a castle of that name, which makes a conspicuous figure in Grison history. Though the site of a castle here is of the most distant antiquity, the present building was raised by Leopold on the ruins of the old, and now forms the usual residence of the Austrian envoy to the republic of the Grisons. It is situated on an eminence, and commands a fine view of the adjacent country.

The Austrian delegate, finding Mr. Coxe was furnished with a letter of recommendation to Count Firmian, envoy at Reichenau, invited him to dinner, and politely offered to accompany him, in the afternoon, to the residence of that nobleman.

The company at table consisted of the delegate, his wife, and a capuchin friar. The lady spoke Romanish, and of course our author could not hold any particular conversation with her.

After dinner, he accompanied his host to Reichenau, and waited on the Austrian envoy, who received him with great attention and politeness, and obligingly invited him to remain some time at Reichenau, which invitation he declined for the present, from an impatience of visiting Coire, where he expected to receive letters from England.

Reichenau is situated at the confluence of the two branches which form the Rhine. The castle stands in a most romantic spot, a little above the junction, and the garden advances to the Rhine. At this place are two bridges, worthy of notice for their mechanical construction: one, which is thrown across the lower branch of the Rhine, is

about one hundred and five feet long ; the second, being built across the Rhine below the point of union, forms a most beautiful object, and the span of the arch is not less than two hundred and twenty feet in length. It is in the style of the bridge of Schaffhausen ; but, as the banks of the Rhine are more elevated, it has a grander effect.

The valley from Reichenau to Coire, is about two miles broad, and is watered by the Rhine. Several insulated rocks are scattered on the banks of the river, some naked, others covered with wood, which greatly diversify the scenery.

Entering the League of the House of God, they soon arrived at Coire. This town is situated at the foot of the Alps, in a rich plain, of considerable extent, bounded on one side by the chain of mountains, which separates the country of the Grisons from the canton of Glarus.

Coire lies partly in the plain, and partly upon the steep side of a rock, and is surrounded with brick walls and towers. The streets are narrow and dirty. The number of inhabitants may amount to about three thousand.

This town is supposed, by some to have derived its origin from the Emperor Constantius, who, in the three hundred and fifty-fifth year of the Christian era, penetrated into Rhætia, and fixed his station for some time near the spot where Coire now stands, its present name being probably derived from Curia.

The whole territory, which is now comprised within the League of the House of God, and divided into eleven districts, was formerly under the dominion of the bishop of Coire. The government of Coire, which forms one of the districts, is of a mixed nature. The supreme legislative

lative power resides in the citizens; but the executive is intrusted to a council of seventy.

The chiefs of Coire are two burgomasters, taken from the members of the senate, who, though liable to be removed, invariably have continued in office for life. These two magistrates enjoy the supreme dignity by rotation, each for the space of a year.

Mr. Coxe was led by curiosity to visit the apartment in which the general diet of the Grisons is held, every three years. Though it contains no object worthy of description, yet as being the place where the parliament of a free nation is assembled, it could not fail to strike his attention. Coire sends two deputies to this diet, who are generally the two burgomasters.

In the highest part of the town stands the bishop's palace, the cathedral, and the houses belonging to the chapter. The bishop is prince of the Roman empire, a dignity annexed to the see since 1170. His annual revenues amount to two thousand pounds sterling yearly.

He still possesses the right of coining money, and an absolute jurisdiction, both in civil and criminal affairs, within the precincts of his palace. Beyond this limited district, he enjoys not the least power. A citizen, having taken refuge in the cathedral, in order to avoid being arrested for a crime, was refused to be delivered up. The inhabitants, inflamed with rage, raised a gate close to the only opening which leads into the episcopal district, by which means the avenue to the palace was closed. This manœuvre brought the bishop to his senses, and the criminal was given up.

Above the palace, upon the highest extremity of the town, is the convent of St. Lucius, whose bones repose in the cathedral, under a rich shrine. This saint, it seems, was king of England in the second century; but being inflamed with religious zeal, he left his throne, and wandered about till he came to the spot, where his chapel now stands. All this is firmly believed by the good Catholics of the place; though it is a miserable fiction of the monks from beginning to end.

The environs of Coire are delightful. The plain is richly diversified with corn and pasture; and the hills are covered with vines. The points of view vary surprisingly, from agreeable to romantic, from romantic to wild. The Rhine here begins to be navigable for rafts, and merchandise is transported towards Lindau and Zurich.

From Coire, our traveller took a ride with two gentlemen of the town, to Haldenstein, a small village, consisting of about sixty houses, but a sovereignty of itself. They waited on the Baron Rodolph de Salis, who received Mr. Coxe with great politeness, and kindly indulged his curiosity, by shewing him his little territory. The baron, it appears, has made no small proficiency in literature, and has formed a large collection of manuscripts relative to the Grisons, from which he has drawn ample materials for a publication that then engaged his attention.

The whole barony consists of a small semicircular plain, about five miles in length and one in breadth, and is washed by the Rhine. The whole number of inhabitants does not exceed four hundred. The people were serfs or vassals till 1701, when the grandfather of the present baron gave them

them several privileges, which have been gradually extended.

The ancient castle of Haldenstein, from which the barons took their titles, is now in ruins. Beyond it is another ruined castle, called Lichtenstein, from which the family of the prince of that name derive their origin.

The present house, occupied by the baron of Haldenstein, is pleasantly situated near the Rhine, and commands a very beautiful prospect.

A few years ago, the castle of Haldenstein was converted into a seminary of learning, an institution much wanted; but from the little countenance given to literature, and some intestine quarrels, it was soon dissolved.

The general state of learning among the Grisons is at a very low ebb. As no rewards are held out to stimulate exertion, the love of glory alone can incite men to excel in study. The Protestants, who receive a liberal education, repair for the most part to Zurich or Basle, and the Catholics to Milan, Pavia, or Vienna.

Leaving Coire, Mr. Coxe made an excursion into the League of the Ten Jurisdictions, which he entered about half a league from Coire. Passing along the vale, they made a circuit to Fatzerol, a very small village, but celebrated for being the place where the first perpetual alliance was ratified by the deputies of the three leagues; and which may, therefore, be considered as the birth-place of the liberty of the Grisons. The house where the meeting was held is now in ruins.

They next descended through Brientz to the baths of Alvenew. They are sulphureous, and both in taste and smell resemble the Harrowgate water. The situation of these baths is highly romantic,

mantic, by the side of the torrent Albula, at the foot of the majestic Alps.

Having passed through Alvenew and Anderwisen, they pursued a narrow path on the side of a rock, called Zug, with a torrent flowing beneath. At the bottom of this rock, close to the torrent, are silver mines, which were formerly worked.

At the village of Glarus, they entered the jurisdiction of Davos, and took up their lodging at a neat cottage.

The district of Davos is a long plain, about a quarter of a mile broad, gradually rising into hills, which terminate in high mountains. In some respects it resembles the valley of Upper Engadina, but is more fertile. A clear murmuring stream runs through its centre, and on the banks are many scattered cottages, which have a neat appearance.

The government established here is exactly similar to that of the small cantons of Switzerland, and is entirely democratical. Every male, at the age of fourteen, has a vote. The administration of affairs, however, resides in the great council of eighty-two, and the council of fifteen. The landamman is elected every two years.

This remote corner has produced several persons of eminent literary merit, particularly Guler and Sprecher; the former of whom was born in 1562, and the latter in 1584. They were both historians of their native country.

Towards the extremity of the beautiful valley of Davos, they came to a lake about four miles in circumference, remarkably deep, and abounding with trout. Beyond this they came to a smaller lake, and then entered a pleasant plain, strewed
with

with cottages, which compose the village of Lower Lera.

Entering the valley of Pretigau, they found the country delightful, and diversified with all kinds of productions. The mountains on each side are, in general, covered with forests. The hamlets are scattered through the plain, and along the declivities of the mountains, in a very pleasing manner. The houses are mostly of wood, in the Swiss style.

A little beyond Grusch, the valley of Pretigau contracts and forms a narrow pass, only wide enough for the torrent and the road. The transition here was very sudden, from high cultivation to absolute sterility; but they soon came again into a fine and rich country, and reached Malantz, in the district of Mayenfield, passing through a series of vineyards.

From Malantz, a small but handsome town, lying on the side of a hill, they descended into a rich plain, and crossing the Rhine, entered the county of Sargans, through pendent groves of larch, fir, birch, beech, and oak.

At Pfeffers they left their horses at the village, and proceeded to the baths of the same name. Formerly, the accommodations here were very indifferent, and the descent into the baths was attended with great inconvenience, if not danger; but now matters are greatly changed for the better: the water is conveyed, by pipes, into commodious baths, and the house is not only convenient but superb.

Being desirous of visiting the warm source, they crossed the Tamina, and entered a chasm in a limestone rock, from ten to twenty feet broad, and from two to three hundred feet high. In
some

some places it is open at the top, in others quite closed, and scarcely admits a ray of light.

The passage along this chasm is quite dreadful, and our author says, his head almost turns giddy at the recollection of it. They were a quarter of an hour before they reached the warm springs, which gush abundantly from the crevices of the rock. Here the baths were formerly constructed; and the houses for the reception of the sick were built on a platform under the impending craggs, a situation so tremendous as to baffle description.

These baths have long been celebrated for curing the gout, rheumatism, and cutaneous disorders. The waters are transparent, perfectly free from smell or taste, and about milk warm. They are said to be impregnated with a small quantity of volatile alkali and iron, but contain no sulphur.

Returning from this source through the same chasm, and along the same tottering scaffold, they were happy once more to issue into day. They mounted their horses at Pfeffers, and descending into the plain of the Rhine, hastened to Coire.

After a short stay there, our author, impatient to return to England, set out on his return, and again passing over the bridge at Reichenau, rode along the side of the mountains, which separate the Grisons from the canton of Glarus.

Ilants, though the capital of the Grey League, is a small town, containing about sixty houses. Here the general diet of the three leagues assemble every third year. The adjacent country is fertile in every species of grain and pasture, and combines many fine points of view.

This

This track of country, stretching from Reichenau to the mountain of St. Gothard, is called the Valley of Sopra Selva, and is the most populous part of the Grey League.

On quitting Ilants, they had occasion to cross the Rhine several times, before they arrived at Truns, famous in the history of this league, as being the place where it was ratified by the chiefs and the communities. An aged oak, according to tradition, was the identical spot where the three chiefs signed their names, and thus confirmed the liberties of the union.

Their next stage was Disentis, a straggling village, lying on a gentle declivity, sloping gradually to the Rhine. The abbot of the monastery near this place, was formerly sovereign over this part of the Grey League, and still possesses much power and influence in the general diet.

The abbey is a large quadrangular building, and being situated on the side of a mountain, it makes a magnificent appearance. The abbot was not at home; but the monks shewed our author all the attention in their power, and gave him freely the little information they possessed themselves.

On the 30th of September, they left Disentis, and in two hours entered the pleasant valley of Tavetch, lying at the foot of the Alps, which part the Grisons from the canton of Uri. The villages in this valley are very numerous, and the whole is rich in pasture, flax, and hemp; producing likewise a small quantity of rye and barley. The trees growing in these parts are chiefly firs and pines.

A little beyond Cimut, they entered a small plain, watered by two streams, which unite and form

form the Upper Rhine. The source of this river is in a glacier on the summit of the Badus.

After two hours ascent from the valley of Tavetch, they reached the highest part of the chain, which separates the country of the Grisons from the canton of Uri. Soon after they arrived at a small lake, of an oblong shape, principally formed by a torrent, that falls from the northern side of the same chain which gives rise to the Rhine. From the lake issues a stream, that may be considered as one of the sources of the Reufs. Tracing it through a narrow plain, at length they came to a deep descent, where the beautiful valley of Urseren burst at once on their view. Thus Mr. Coxe completed the tour of the Swiss cantons and its appendages. We shall, therefore, conclude with some additional remarks he has made on the country of the Grisons.

The religion of the Grisons is divided into Catholic and Reformed. The latter constitutes about two-thirds of the inhabitants. In the administration, however, of civil affairs, religion has no interference: the deputies of the general diet may be members of either community; and hence a perfect amity subsists between the two sects.

In spiritual concerns, the Catholics, for the most part, are under the jurisdiction of the bishop of Coire. For the affairs of the reformed churches, each league is divided into a certain number of districts, the ministers of which assemble twice a year.

The number of reformed parishes, in the whole three leagues, amounts to one hundred and thirty-five. Their ministers enjoy but very small salaries,

ries, the largest not exceeding twenty-five pounds per annum, and some are not more than six.

This scanty income is attended with many inconveniences. It obliges many of the clergy to have recourse to traffic, which tends to the neglect of professional studies, and to the degradation of character. Add to this, that, in most of the communities, the ministers, though confirmed by the synod, are chosen by the people of the parish, and are solely dependent on their bounty.

For these reasons, the candidates for holy orders are generally extremely illiterate; for no person will pay much attention to studies, unless they are animated by the hopes of a decent competence. Mr. Coxe, however, met with a few clergymen, who were greatly distinguished for their erudition, and who would have done credit to any church.

The revenues of the three leagues arise from duties on merchandise in transit; a third of the fines imposed on delinquents; a small tribute from the Valteline and Chiavenna; and a small sum arising from money, chiefly vested in the English funds.

The public expenditure is very trifling, being chiefly confined to the expences incurred by the sittings of the diet, and the salaries assigned to the deputies for their attendance.

Many disputes have arisen among the Grisons, relative to the power of coining; this privilege, however, by general consent, is now vested in the town and bishop of Coire, and the baron of Haldenstein. No money is struck in the Grisons, however, except a small copper coin, called Blutsgger, which is somewhat less than a halfpenny.

The gold and silver, current here, are chiefly Austrian and French.

It is very difficult to ascertain the population with any degree of exactitude; but Mr. Coxe thinks that, in the three leagues, it may amount to ninety-eight thousand, and in their appendages of the Valteline, Chiavenna, and Bormio, to eighty-seven thousand more.

The commerce of the Grisons is extremely limited; the chief exports, exclusive of those from the subject provinces, being cheese and cattle. As their imports, from the necessity of the country, must be much more considerable, the balance of trade is evidently against them; but this difference they are enabled to support, by means of estates in the subject provinces, by public and private pensions from France and Austria, and by money saved in foreign service.

As most of the Grison peasants weave cloth and linen, for the use of their families, it would be easy to introduce manufactures among them. But in these little republics, a strange prejudice prevails against commerce, and the project of establishing manufactures is opposed by many of the leading men.

Some impute this to a suspicion that, in proportion as the people became opulent, they would lose their patrician influence; while others, with more appearance of liberality, contend, that as the true riches of every country consist, in the products of agriculture, all occupations, which turn the attention of the people from this grand object, are detrimental to the general interests of society; and particularly, that in free states, manufactures tend to enervate the inhabitants, to introduce the
baneful

baneful effects of luxury, to depress the spirit of freedom, and to destroy the simplicity of manners.

Yet, if impartially canvassed, these arguments, however specious, fall to the ground. In Neuchâtel, from a spirit of trade, forests have been cleared, and the country converted into pasture, or sown with grain, which, without the profits of commerce or manufactures, could never have been accomplished. Trade, it may be farther observed, is also favourable to population, not only the strength, but the riches of a country; so that, on the whole, it is a narrow and illiberal policy, which would restrain men solely to the cultivation of the earth, though every encouragement certainly ought to be given to promote that grand object.

The water communication, between the country of the Grisons and Milan, is formed by the lake of Como, by the Lecco, by the canals of the Adda and Trezzo.

The canal of Trezzo commences at the town of that name, on the Adda, and is carried on to Milan. This cut is twenty-four miles in length, and was first begun in 1457, and was much improved and enlarged about a century after. Still, however, the Adda was not navigable the whole way between the lake of Lecco and Trezzo; and consequently there was no water communication between the lake of Como and Milan.

The navigation of the Adda was interrupted by a succession of cataracts, for about a mile long, which made the whole fall of the water equal to eighty feet perpendicular.

To obviate this inconvenience, a canal was projected in 1519, though not carried into execution till 1591. But the stream of the Adda

was no sooner admitted into the cut, than the banks gave way in such a manner, as to render all repairs impossible.

In this state of hopeless impracticability it remained, till it was again undertaken by the Emperor Joseph II. when it was carried on with so much expedition and superior knowledge, that in three years it was completely finished, and found to answer every desirable purpose.

The canal of the Adda is about a mile in length, and is excavated in the rocks to the depth, in some places, of one hundred feet, and to the uniform breadth of two hundred atop. The fall is broken by six sluices, and the water is supplied by the running stream of the Adda.

Still, however, so many inconveniences and expences attend the navigation, from the lake of Como to Milan, that the principal part of the merchandise is conveyed by land carriage, as being the most commodious, and the least hazardous, way.

The three leagues, though always esteemed allies of the Swiss, are yet not, strictly speaking, in confederacy with all the cantons. They are in close alliance, however, with the cantons of Berne and Zurich; and, by these treaties, the Grisons are called allies of the Swiss; and, in consequence of their connection with a part, would, in case of invasion or rebellion, be supplied with succours from all the Swiss republics.

The Grisons likewise have formed particular treaties of alliance with Austria, France, and Venice.

The languages of the Grisons are the Italian, German, and Romanish. The latter is the vernacular tongue among the greatest part of the Grisons,

Grifons, and seems formerly to have been more extensively spoken than now.

It is divided into two principal dialects, the one spoken in the Grey League, the other in that of God's House. These dialects vary in pronunciation and orthography, but are sufficiently similar, in the general arrangement and expression, to constitute one language.

The Grifon writers assert, that the Rhetian, or Romanſh, is derived from the Latin; and they support this by arguments drawn from the history of the country; from the names of places, which have evidently a Latin origin; and from its similarity to the Latin, and to other languages derived from that root.

Before the introduction of the reformation among the Grifons, the Romanſh was esteemed such a barbarous jargon, as to be thought incapable of being reduced to grammatical form. The monks, whose interest it was to keep the people in ignorance, favoured this opinion; but since that time, several books have been published in the language by men of eminent literary attainments; and, in the year 1679, the Bible was translated into it.

We subjoin a few words in Romanſh, by way of specimen of a language so little known.

God,	Dieu.	Head,	Teſta.
Heaven,	Chel.	Ear,	Araglia.
Cloud,	Nuvia.	Hand,	Maun.
Rain,	Plovgia.	Foot,	Pé.
Hail,	Tempeſta.	Body,	Chuerp.
Mouth,	Boucchia.	Hair,	Chiapè.
Nose,	Næs.	Bread,	Pain.
Eye,	Oelg.	Wine,	Vin.

Fire,	Foe.	Horfe,	Chiuvalg.
Air,	Aier.	Dog,	Chiaun.
Earth,	Tearra.		

The following table exhibits the precedence of the thirteen cantons, and the era of their reception into the Helvetic confederacy.

The eight ancient cantons.

Zuric,	Reformed Religion,	1350.
Berne,	Reformed,	1352.
Lucerne,	Catholic,	1332.
Uri,	Catholic,	1315.
Schweitz,	Catholic,	1315.
Underwalden, . .	Catholic,	1315.
Zug,	Catholic,	1352.
Glarus,	Mixed,	1351.

The five new cantons.

Basil,	Reformed,	1501.
Friburgh,	Catholic,	1481.
Soleure,	Catholic,	1481.
Schaffhausen, . .	Reformed,	1501.
Appenzel,	Mixed,	1513.

The quota of troops, to be furnished by each canton in the event of war, will appear from the following distribution, which was fixed in 1668. A proportionable contingent is levied, should an augmentation be required.

Zuric,	1400
Berne,	2000
Lucerne,	1200
Uri,	400
Schweitz,	600
Underwalden,	

Underwalden,	400
Zug,	400
Glarus,	400
Basle,	400
Friburgh,	800
Soleure,	600
Schaffhausen,	400
Appenzel,	600

VIEW

VIEW OF
SOCIETY AND MANNERS,
IN
FRANCE,
SWITZERLAND AND GERMANY,
BY
JOHN MOORE, M.D.

THE extreme difficulty of giving a satisfactory abridgment of a work, which consists rather of sentiment than description, had almost deterred us from entering on Dr. Moore's celebrated volumes. But unwilling to omit, entirely, what we consider as an honour to the literature of our country, and an ornament to any collection, we have attempted his View of Society and Manners in France and Italy, in a way the most favourable to the fame of the author that we could devise, and which may convey some faint idea, though but a faint one, we confess, of the merit of the original.

The amiable author, it is well known, travelled with the present Duke of Hamilton, and is no less estimable as a man, than as an elegant and lively writer. He addressed his remarks, in the course of his travels, in the form of letters, to
a friend

a friend who had solicited his correspondence, or perhaps, as the most eligible mode of conveying his sentiments. We have given the outlines in connection.

Soon after Dr. Moore arrived at Paris, he went to the Italian opera, when a marquis, whom he had known in London, entered the box. He flew to him with all the vivacity of a Frenchman, and with every mark of pleasure and regard; asking a thousand questions in a breath about his friends in England, without waiting for an answer.

Perceiving the company disturbed by their conversation, he proposed leaving the comedy, to which the marquis immediately assented, and ordered his coachman to drive them to the *Coleffée*, as all the world would be there.

When they arrived, they went up into the gallery, that they might see the company below, and yet be free from interruption.

Our author soon remarked two ladies, a little extravagantly dressed; but whose features betrayed the approach of fifty, in spite of all their art to conceal their age. At sight of them the marquis started up, said they were his relations, and remarked, that old ladies, who had the ambition to appear young, if neglected, were the most vindictive animals on earth; for which reason, as he wished to retain their good graces, he must speak to them.

In a few minutes he returned again, saying, he had got well out of the scrape, by telling them he was engaged with an English gentleman, and that he had fixed a young officer with them, who dared as well leave his colours in battle, as forsake them, till they chose to retire; because his
best

best hopes of promotion depended on their influence at court.

A young man, very magnificently dressed, entered the room. His importance was announced by his airs, his bustle, and his decisive tone of voice. "It is M. le Duc de ——," said the marquis, "and it is indispensably necessary, that you should be presented to him; there is no living at Paris without that advantage."

A fine lady next appeared, who seemed to command the admiration of the whole assembly. She smiled at one, nodded to another, shrugged to a third, tapped a fourth with her fan, burst into a fit of laughter to a fifth, and whispered in the ear of a sixth. In short, she seemed persuaded that she was the only person present worthy of attention.

Just as the marquis was proceeding with some sarcastic remarks on this beautiful woman, he suddenly recognised one of his friends; and immediately starting up, hurried our author down stairs, and introduced him, by saying, he was an English philosopher, who understood horse races better than Newton himself, and who had no objection to the game of whist.

With this gentleman they supped, in company with several ingenious men, with a mixture of very agreeable women, who freely joined in the conversation, even when it turned on subjects of literature. Even those who knew nothing of the matter, rallied their own ignorance in such a sprightly manner, as must have convinced every person, that knowledge is not necessary to render a woman exceedingly agreeable in society.

The marquis was now a pretty constant companion of our author; and being universally liked,

liked, and intimately acquainted with some of the most eminent literary characters, his friendship was of real value.

It is scarcely to be credited, what influence men of learning have on the gay and dissipated city of Paris. Their opinions not only determine the merit of works of taste and science, but they have considerable weight on the manners and sentiments of people of rank, and of the public in general.

As the sentiments and conversation of men of letters influence, to a certain degree, the opinions and the conduct of the fashionable world; so the manners of these last have an obvious effect on the former, and render them polite and easy; equally remote in their carriage from the awkward timidity contracted in retirement, and the disgusting arrogance inspired by university honours, or ecclesiastical dignities.

Politeness and good manners may be traced in various proportions through every rank, from the highest nobility to the lowest mechanic. This forms a more remarkable and distinguishing feature in the French character, than the vivacity, impetuosity, and fickleness, for which the ancient, as well as the modern, natives of this country have been noted.

A stranger, unversed in the language, and who can scarcely open his mouth without a solecism, or some ridiculous blunder, is never laughed at; but kindly acquainted with the proper phrase, or assisted in expressing his meaning.

The most glaring deviation from fashion, in dress, an object of their greatest attention, cannot make the French forget the laws of good breeding. They neither gaze nor sneer at a person,

son whose clothes are made against every law of the mode; but suffer him to pass, before they turn round to indulge their curiosity.

It is not to be denied, however, but the influence of office is as visible among the French as other nations, particularly towards each other. In fact, examples of the abuse of power are every where to be met with; yet there is no country in Europe where less licence, in this respect, is taken than here.

In this place, our ingenious traveller makes various remarks on the innate loyalty and love of monarchy of the French nation. That this might be the prevailing character of the people only twenty years ago, we have no reason to doubt; but the instability of the French has always been proverbial; and the revolution in sentiment, which has lately taken place among them, is no less remarkable than the revolution in government. With the turn of the tide, they may again assume their old character, or be moulded into something quite new: that their habits, their ideas can remain just as they are, is impossible. Society cannot exist without the ties of religion, and the impulse of morals.

Dr. Moore had now contracted a particular intimacy with the marquis, who had, however, absented himself for some days, as he said, he was obliged to pay his court to a lady, in order to gratify his relations; and that he was just on the point of being married.

While our author was in daily expectation of hearing this intelligence confirmed, the marquis called at his lodgings, and with a very gay air, exclaimed 'Me voilà au désespoir, mon cher ami.'

The doctor observed, he was the merriest man he ever saw in despair.

He then circumstantially informed him, that the match was broken off without any fault of his, and seemed happy that he had been able to please his friends, and yet not engage himself.

“ My mother,” continued the marquis, “ who is the best creature in the world, told me, this marriage would make her quite happy. All my uncles and aunts, and cousins, said the same. I was moreover informed that the lady, her father, and all her relations, wished this alliance with the most obliging earnestness. The girl was tolerably pretty; and as it was likely they would persuade me to marry some time or other, why, thought I, should I not oblige them now, particularly as it was not in the smallest degree displeasing to myself.”

The doctor approved of his friend's reasoning, and only observed, that it was fortunate he happened to be perfectly disengaged, and did not prefer another woman.

“ You are mistaken, my friend, rejoined the marquis, I preferred many to the lady in question, and one in particular, whose name I will not mention; but whom I love, whom I *do* love in earnest.”

“ Good heaven!” cried the doctor, “ how then could you think of marrying another?” “ That does not signify, said the marquis, I could not marry her. She had got the start of me, and had undergone the ceremony already, and, therefore, had no objection to my obliging my mother and relations in this particular, for she is goodness itself. However, I am well pleased, upon the whole, that the affair has gone off without any imputation

tion on me; and though it is possible that it may be brought on at some future period, I shall still be a gainer, because the longer marriage is deferred, the later we have occasion for repentance."

This is a genuine picture of a French lover; and we leave our readers to make their own reflections.

Our countrymen often accuse the French of insincerity in their professions; but this is frequently without reason. Their language abounds in complimentary phrases, which they distribute with wonderful profusion and volubility; but they have no more meaning than the customary subscription of a letter; and as these expressions are fully understood by the natives themselves, they imagine all the world interpret them the same; and therefore, they evidently have not the smallest intention to deceive.

The not making a proper allowance for different modes and usages which custom has established, is one great cause of the unfavourable and harsh sentiments which the people, of different countries of the world, too often harbour against each other.

The complimentary phrases, which have crept into all modern languages, may perhaps be superfluous, or absurd; but they are so fully established, that people of the greatest integrity use them in England as well as France; with this difference, that a smaller proportion will do in one country than the other; but they are indications of friendship in neither.

Friendship is a plant of slow growth in every climate. Happy the man who can rear a few, even where he has the most settled residence.

Travellers, passing through foreign countries, seldom have time to cultivate them; if they be presented with a few pleasing, but short-lived flowers, they ought to accept of them with thankfulness, and not quarrel with the natives for bestowing the more valuable plants with discretion.

Of all travellers, the English in general have the least reason to complain of the reception they meet with abroad: they frequently shew unjust prejudices against the people among whom they sojourn; they despise their country and their customs; they form, if possible, societies or clubs of their own; and yet they are angry because foreigners are too well bred, to tease them with solicitations to be more sociable, and to court them to an intimacy, which they affect to shun.

By this illiberal way of thinking and acting, the true purpose of travelling is lost or perverted; and many Englishmen have remained four or five years abroad, without having mixed with the natives of the countries through which they passed. Yet to travel to France or Italy, and to converse with none but English people, and to have merely to boast of having been in those countries, is certainly absurd to the highest degree. At the same time, to ape foreign manners and fashions, and transplant them to England, where they never can thrive or appear captivating, shew still less sense and discernment; for, after all his attempts at imitation, a travelled Englishman is as different from a Frenchman or an Italian, as an English mastiff is from a monkey or a fox.

After our author had been some time in Paris, he fell in with one of his countrymen, whom he calls Mr. B. This gentleman it seems was fraught with the strongest prejudices against French manners

ners in general ; and considered all their politesse as impertinence, and their civilities as a prelude to the picking of his pocket.

In company with this gentleman, Dr. Moore went one day to a review of the foot guards by Marshal Biron. There was a crowd, and it was with difficulty they could get into the circle to see distinctly. An old officer, of high rank, touched some people who stood before them, saying, "these two gentlemen are foreigners," on which they immediately gave way. "Don't you think this very obliging," said Dr. Moore. "Yes," answered he ; "but by heavens, it is very unjust."

They returned by the Boulevards, where crowds of citizens, in their holiday dresses, were making merry ; all in a careless oblivion of the past, and thoughtless of the future. "These people seem very happy," observed our author. "Happy !" exclaimed B. "if they had common sense or reflection, they would be miserable. Could not a minister pick out half a dozen of them, if he pleased, and clap them into the Bicetre ?" "That is true, indeed, said Dr. Moore. Such a catastrophe may very probably happen, and yet I thought no more of it than they."

Thus there are some people in the world, who by carrying reflection too far, not only imbitter present enjoyment, but dress the future in gloomy colours, which it would be wise to paint in the brightest. These are miserable on principle, and refine away the present pleasures of life, by anticipating what may never happen.

Dr. Moore went with his friend B. to the play-house. They found a prodigious crowd of people before the door, and could not get a place

without some exertion. The play was the Siege of Calais, founded on a popular story, which must be interesting and flattering to the French nation.

This piece had the same success at Versailles as at Paris; though, in matters of taste, the Parisians will not suffer themselves to be dictated to by the court; and it very often happens, that a dramatic piece, which has been acted before the royal family and court, with the highest applause, is afterwards damned with every circumstance of ignominy at the theatres in the capital.

By the emphatic applause the French bestow on particular passages of the pieces represented, they convey to their rulers the sentiments of the nation respecting the measures of government.

At a time when they were borne down by despotism, this was the only public expression of their sentiments that they could disclose with safety; and they laid hold of this opportunity with ardour, and turned it to advantage.

Though the gentleness of French manners qualifies, in some degree, the severity of the government, yet the condition of the common people is by no means comfortable*.

When we consider the prodigious resources of this kingdom; the advantages it enjoys, above almost every other country, in point of soil, climate, and situation, we should naturally expect, that the bulk of the nation should be at their ease, and that real poverty should be little known. This, however, is not the case; for amidst abund-

* This refers to the period antecedent to the revolution; but notwithstanding the sacrifices that have been made, it is to be feared that the people have yet little reason to rejoice.

ance, nay, the utmost profusion, the peasant cannot, without much difficulty, earn a scanty and precarious subsistence. The vices and extravagance of individuals, and the defects of the government can alone account for this.

During his stay at Paris, the marquis invited Dr. Moore to drive somewhere into the country, to dine tête-à-tête, and to return in time to the play.

This proposal being acceded to, they proceeded a few miles, when they perceived a young fellow, dressed in an old uniform, sitting under a tree, playing on the violin. As they came nearer, they perceived he had a wooden leg, part of which lay in fragments by his side.

The marquis accosted him, and asked him where he was going. "To my own village," said the soldier. But my poor friend, resumed the marquis, you will be a long time before you arrive at your journey's end, if you have no other carriage besides these, pointing to the fragments of his wooden leg. "I wait for my equipage and suit, said the soldier, and am greatly mistaken if I do not see them this moment coming down the hill."

Looking up, they saw a cart drawn by one horse, in which was a woman and the driver. Before they came up, the soldier informed them that he had been wounded in Corsica; that his leg had been cut off; that before setting out, he had been contracted to a young woman in the neighbourhood; but that when he returned with a wooden leg, all the girl's relations opposed the match. The young woman, however, still remained constant in her affections, and had agreed to accompany him to Paris, from whence they intended

intended to set out in the diligence to the town where he was born. The wooden leg had snapped on the way, which obliged his mistress to leave him, and go to the next village in quest of a cart, to carry him thither, in order to have his leg renewed. It is a misfortune, concluded the foldier, that will be easily repaired, and see here is my mistress.

The girl sprang from the cart, seized the hand of her lover, stretched out to welcome her, and told him with a smile full of affection, that she had found an admirable carpenter, who had promised to make a leg that would not break.

She seemed about twenty years of age, a beautiful, fine-shaped brunette, whose countenance indicated sentiment and vivacity.

"You must be fatigued, my dear," said the marquis. One is never fatigued, said she, when they are serving those they love. The soldier kissed her hand, with a gallant and tender air.

"When a woman has fixed her heart upon a man," you see, said the marquis, turning to me, "it is not a leg more or less that will change her sentiments." Nor was it his legs, rejoined Fanchon, which made any impression on my heart. "If they had," said the marquis, "you would not have been singular in your way of thinking—but allons, continued he, addressing himself to me—This girl is quite charming—her lover has the appearance of a brave fellow—they have but three legs, and we have four—if you have no objection, they shall have the carriage, and we will follow on foot to the next village, to see what can be done for these lovers." I never agreed to a proposal with more pleasure in my life.

The



T. Kirk del.

C. Rivers sculp.

The Disabled Soldier & his Mistress

Published Nov^r 1. 1797. by E. Newbery. corner of St Paul's. (p. 188.)

“ The soldier began to make difficulties about entering the carriage. Let us mount, said the girl, since these gentlemen insist on doing us so much honour.

“ A girl like you, would do honour to the finest coach in France. Nothing would please me more than to have it in my power to make you happy,” said the marquis. Leave that to me, said the soldier. I am as happy as a queen, said Fanchon.

“ You see how happy we French people are,” said the marquis, as they were driving off. But answered I, how long will it last with these poor creatures? Ah! said he, that reflection is like an Englishman’s. I cannot tell how long their happiness will last; neither do I know how long you or I may live; but I fancy it would be great folly to be sorrowful through life, because we do not know how soon misfortunes may come, and because we are quite certain that death must come at last.

“ When we overtook them at the inn, and had ordered them some refreshment, pray said I to the soldier, how do you purpose to maintain yourself and wife? One, who has contrived to live five years on soldier’s pay, replied he, can have little difficulty for the rest of his life. I can play tolerably well on the fiddle, and perhaps there is not a village in all France of the size, where there are so many marriages as that in which we are going to settle.—I shall never want employment.

“ And I, said Fanchon, can weave hair nets and silk purses, and mend stockings. Besides, my uncle has two hundred livres of mine in his hands, and though he is very brutal, and connected with a person in power, we shall make him pay it every

every fous." "And I," said the soldier, "have fifteen livres in my pocket; besides, two louis-d'ors, that I lent to a poor farmer, to enable him to discharge the taxes, and which he will repay me when he is able."

"You see, Sir," said Fanchon to me, "that we are not quite objects of compassion. May we not be happy, my good friend," turning to her lover, with a look of exquisite tenderness, "if it be not our own fault?" "If you are not, my sweet girl," said the soldier with emotion, "I shall have much to lament."

I never felt a more charming sensation. The tear stood in the marquis's eye. "Faith," said he, "this is a crying comedy." Then turning to Fanchon: "Come hither, my dear," said he, "till such time as you can get payment of the two hundred livres; and my friend here, recovers his two louis, accept of this from me," putting a purse of gold into her hand. "I hope you will continue to love your husband, and to be loved by him. Let me know, from time to time, how you go on, and how I can serve you. This will inform you of my name and residence; but if ever you do me the pleasure of calling at my house, in Paris, be sure you bring your husband along with you; for I would not wish to esteem you less, or love you more than I do at this moment."

"Heaven bless you both, my good friends," said the marquis: "may he never know what happiness is, who attempts to interrupt yours. It shall be my business to find out some employment for you, my fellow-soldier, more profitable than playing on the fiddle. In the mean time, stay here, till a coach comes, which shall bring you both, this night, to Paris; my servant shall provide

vide lodgings for you, and the best surgeon for wooden legs that can be found. When you are properly equipped, let me see you, before you go home."

Their English friend, Mr. B. supped with Dr. Moore the same evening. The adventure of Fanchon and the soldier was particularly detailed by our author. B. took little notice, but said, the marquis was an honest fellow, and, from his name, wished to trace him to an English extraction. Soon after, Mr. B. met the soldier by chance, and slipped twenty guineas in his hand. The soldier, in astonishment, exclaimed, "My God! this is the marquis's doings again." "Yes," said B. "he sends you that by me;" and immediately hurried down another street.

The soldier wished, at a future interview, to thank the marquis for this fresh bounty. He could not unravel the mystery; but when Dr. Moore heard the tale, he knew that his benevolent countryman had thus generously contributed to the soldier's comfort, without taking the trouble to reflect that he was already in the hands of a man who would take care of him.

There are men in the world, and, no doubt, useful and respectable men too, who examine the *pros* and *cons* before they decide, and who are directed, in all their actions by the generally received notions of duty. They weigh in the nicest scales, every claim that is made upon them; and if just, they endeavour to pay them on demand, as they would a bill of exchange. Their passions and their affairs are always in excellent order: they walk through life undisturbed by the misfortunes of others. And when they come to the end of their journey, they are decently interred in a church-yard.

Another set of men never take time to calculate. They are generally guided by the heart, which never studies arithmetic. Their heads have scarcely a vote in their conduct. They perform acts of benevolence, before they reflect that it is a duty, merely for the pleasure they afford; and, perhaps, forget them, as they do their own pleasures, when they are past.

That the first of these two classes of men may be most useful in society, is unquestionable; they keep out of many scrapes and difficulties, into which warm feelings may hurry the other; yet, while we respect the one, we cannot help loving the other.

Considering the natural gaiety and volatility of the French nation, Dr. Moore says, he has often been surprised at their predilection for tragedy, especially since their tragedies are barren of incident, and full of declamatory speeches. Yet the most sprightly of both sexes flock to these entertainments, in preference to all others, and listen with unrelaxed gravity and attention. It might be supposed, that such a species of amusement would be more congenial to the saturnine dispositions of the English; but an English audience loves bustle, show, and incident, in their tragedies, and have a mortal aversion to long dialogues and set speeches, however fine the sentiments may be, and however beautiful the language.

In this respect, it would seem that the two nations had changed characters. Perhaps it would be difficult to account for it in a satisfactory manner. A Frenchman would cut the matter short, by saying, that the Paris audience has a more correct taste than that of London; that the one is capable of being amused and delighted with poetry

try and sentiment, while the other could not be kept awake without bustle, guards, processions, trumpets, fighting, and bloodshed.

The French tragedians, however, are apt to "overstep the modesty of nature." Nature, indeed, is not the criterion by which their merit is to be tried. The audience measures them by a more sublime standard; and, if they come not up to that, they cannot pass muster.

Natural action, and natural elocution, they seem to think incompatible with dignity, and imagine that the hero must announce the greatness of his soul by supercilious looks, haughty gestures, and a hollow-sounding voice. The easy dialogue of Shakespeare appears to them low, vulgar, and inconsistent with the dignity of tragedy.

Simplicity of manners, however, is so far from being inconsistent with magnanimity, that the one, for the most part, accompanies the other. That it is not inconsistent with genius, and the highest qualities of mind, is a position which cannot be denied.

In comedy the French actors excel, and can always produce a greater number, far above mediocrity, than are to be found on the English stage. The national character and manners of the French give them, perhaps, advantages in this line; and, besides, they have now numerous resources to supply them with actors of every kind. In all the large towns of France, there are play-houses established. The same takes place in the frontier towns, and wherever there is a garrison of two or three regiments.

In genteel comedy, particularly, the French actors seem to excel ours. They have, in gene-

ral, more the appearance of people of fashion. Between the manners and behaviour of the people of the first rank, and those of the middle and lower ranks, in France, there is less difference than in England. Players, therefore, who wish to catch the modes of people of distinction, do not undertake so great a task in the one country, as the other.

It is very seldom that an English servant could pass for a man of quality or fashion; but there are many valets de place in Paris, so very polite, so completely masters of all the little etiquettes, fashionable phrases, and airs of the beau monde, that if they were set off by the ornaments of dress and equipage, they might appear to advantage in many of the courts of Europe, and would only be detected in their own.

The superiority of the French in genteel comedy is still more evident, with regard to the actresses, and for the same reasons.

A good figure, a graceful manner, a melodious voice, a retentive memory, and an accurate judgment, are all required in a player. It seems, therefore, unreasonable not to consider that profession as creditable, in which we expect so many qualities united; while many others are thought respectable, in which we daily see people arrive at eminence, with less than common sense.

Yet, this prejudice against performers is still stronger in France than in England. In a company, where the celebrated Le Kain was present, mention happened to be made of the king of France having just granted a pension to a certain superannuated actor. An officer, fixing his eyes on Le Kain, expressed his indignation at so much being bestowed on a rascally player, while he
himself

himself had got nothing. "Eh ! Monsieur," returned the actor, "comptez vous pour rien la liberté de me parler ainsi ?"

Having gratified their curiosity in Paris, they made arrangements for their departure, and passing through Dijon, Chalons, and Maçon, arrived on the fourth day at Lyons.

Next to Paris, Lyons is the most magnificent town in France. It is enlivened by industry, enriched by commerce, beautified by wealth, and ennobled by its population.

The manners and conversation of merchants and manufacturers has been generally considered as peculiar to that class of men. But in France, there is little difference perceptible between the address of the people of Lyons and those of Versailles. A native, however, may possibly discover discriminations where a foreigner cannot.

After a short stay at Lyons, they proceeded to Geneva*. The situation of this city is as happy, in many respects, as the heart of man can desire, or his imagination conceive.

Add to this, the great number of men of letters, who are either natives of the place, or have chosen it for their residence, the decent manners, the easy circumstances, the humane dispositions of the Genevois in general, render this city and its environs a desirable retreat for people of a philosophic turn of mind, who are contented with moderate and calm enjoyments, and who have no local attachments, nor domestic reasons, for preferring one place before another.

* As we have, in the former part of this volume, made the tour of Switzerland with Mr. Coxé, we do not mean to enlarge on our author's account of this country.

As education here is cheap and liberal, the citizens of both sexes are remarkably well instructed. It is scarcely possible to find an equal number of persons, with minds so well cultivated as the inhabitants of Geneva possess.

It is not uncommon to find mechanics, in the intervals of their labour, amusing themselves with the works of Locke, Montesquieu, and Newton.

The democratical nature of their government inspires every citizen with an idea of his own importance. He perceives that no man in the republic dares to insult, or even neglect, him with impunity. The meanest citizen of Geneva is possessed of certain rights, which render him an object deserving the attention of the greatest. This makes him respect himself; a sentiment which, within proper bounds, has a manifest tendency to render a man respectable to others.

“As far as I can judge,” says our author, “a spirit of independence and freedom, tempered by sentiments of decency and a love of order, influence, in a most remarkable manner, the minds of the subjects of this happy republic.”

In no city of Europe are the minds of the people less under the influence of superstition or fanatical enthusiasm, than at Geneva. Servetus, were he now alive, would not run the smallest risk of persecution. Should the pope himself chuse this city for a retreat, it would be his own fault if he did not live in as much security as at the Vatican.

The clergy of Geneva are commonly men of sense, learning, and moderation, impressing on the minds of their hearers the tenets of Christianity, with all the graces of pulpit eloquence, and
illustrating

illustrating the efficacy of their doctrine by the purity of their own lives.

The public walks are crowded by all descriptions of people, in their best dresses. The different societies or circles assemble in the houses and gardens of individuals. They play at cards and bowls, and have music parties on the water.

There is one peculiar, but excellent, custom here. Parents form societies for their children at a very early period of their lives. These societies consist of ten, twelve, or more children of the same sex, and nearly of the same age and situation in life. They assemble once a week, in the houses of their respective parents, who entertain them with tea, coffee, biscuits, and fruit; and then leave them to indulge in free conversation.

This connection is strictly kept up through life, whatever alterations may take place in the situations or circumstances of the individuals. To their latest hours, they continue to pass some evenings every year, whenever it is possible, with the companions and friends of their youth. Nothing can be more delightful or instructive, than such a fraternity.

The richer class of the citizens have country houses adjacent to the town, where they spend one half of the year. These houses are all of them neat, and some of them splendid; and in point of prospect, they are all the most charming that can be imagined.

All who live in town must return from their country visits at sun-set, or they are sure to be shut out. The Genevois are wonderfully jealous of the external, as well as the internal, enemies of their independency; a jealousy that has been transmitted from one generation to another.

Geneva, like all free states, is exposed to party rage; and it is difficult for strangers, who reside here for any length of time, to observe a strict neutrality. Among the citizens themselves, political altercations are carried on with great fire and spirit. Our author mentions an anecdote of an old gentleman, who, declaiming against certain measures of the council, asserted that all those who promoted them deserved to be hanged. His brother, who was in that predicament, interrupted him, and with a tone of voice which seemed to beg for mercy, exclaimed, Good God! brother, you would not push your resentment so far—you would not actually hang them! Yes, most certainly I would, replied the patriot, with a determined countenance, and you, my dear brother, should be the first, to shew my impartiality.

Whenever political animosity is carried to such a height, it destroys the charities of life, and is sincerely to be lamented, though the purity of the motive may sometimes deserve praise.

Dr. Moore was present at a grand military entertainment, given by the king of the Arquebusers, upon his accession to that dignity. This envied rank is neither transmitted by hereditary right, nor obtained by election, but gained by skill and real merit,

During several months every year, a considerable number of the citizens are almost constantly employed in firing at a mark, placed at a proper distance; and the most expert marksman, after a due number of trials, is declared king.

The person who, by the unanimous voice of his judges, was declared to excel every competitor, was attended to his own house, from
the

the field of contest, by the syndics, amidst the acclamations of the people.

On the day of his feast, a camp was formed on a plain, without the gates of the city, where the whole forces of the republic divided into two distinct armies, in order to perform a battle, in honour of his majesty.

Every thing being in readiness, the syndics, the council, strangers of distinction, the relatives and favourites of the king, assembled at his majesty's palace, a little snug house, in a narrow lane; and from thence set out, in grand procession, to the field where the troops were drawn up.

When the king was seated, the ardour of the troops could no longer be restrained. They called loudly to their officers to lead them to glory. The signal was given, and the attack commenced in the most spirited manner. They had, indeed, nothing to fear; yet their evolutions shewed some knowledge of the military art, and both parties went through their parts with much address.

When victory, with equipoised wings, hovered over both armies, a messenger arrived from the town-hall, with intelligence that dinner was ready, on which they instantly threw down their arms, shook hands, and were friends.

They left Geneva on the 3d of August, and breakfasted at Bonneville, a small town in the duchy of Savoy, situated at the foot of the Mole, which is computed at four thousand six hundred English feet above the surface of the lake of Geneva, and which last is one thousand two hundred feet above the level of the Mediterranean.

From Bonneville they proceeded to Cluse, delighted

lighted with the variety of the landscapes. After a short stay here, they proceeded along the banks of the Arve, which, after being swollen by the torrents from the neighbouring glaciers, falls into the Rhone.

At Salenche they agreed with a muleteer to carry them over the mountains to Martigny. In these mountainous tracks, mules are, by far, the safest mode of conveyance; and it is astonishing with what precision they make their way, where it is scarcely possible to tread without danger.

Finding it impossible to direct his animal, and allowing the mule to be the best judge of the footing, our author laid the bridle on its neck, and allowed it to take its own way, without presuming to control it in the least.

"This is doubtless the best plan," adds Dr. Moore, with significant irony, "and what I recommend to all my friends, in their journey through life, when they have a mule for their companion."

After resting some time at the village of Serve, they ascended by a very steep and rough road, and at six in the evening reached the valley of Chamouni. This valley is bounded on all sides by very high mountains, between the intervals of which, on one side of the valley, lie the vast bodies of ice and snow, called the Glaciers.

Pretty early, next morning, they began to ascend Montanvert, from the top of which there is an easy access to the glacier of that name, and to the valley of ice. After travelling four hours, they gained the summit. The day was remarkably fine, and the surrounding objects noble and majestic.

Mount Breven, though separated by a vale a mile broad, from the vast height, appeared so near,

near, that, judging from the eye, it seemed possible to have thrown a stone from the one to the other.

Still Mont Blanc seemed as high here as when they were in the valley, though they had ascended three thousand feet perpendicular.

Descending a little on the other side of Montanvert, they found themselves in a plain of ice, resembling a stormy sea, suddenly arrested and fixed by a strong post. This stretches several leagues behind Montanvert, and presents some sublime and beautiful scenes.

Having satisfied their curiosity, and taken some refreshment, they began to descend, and reached their former lodgings at Prieuré, in the valley of Chamouni, without any accident, though not without fatigue.

There are five or six different glaciers, which all terminate on one side of the valley of Chamouni, within the space of five leagues. They were contented, however, with visiting one of them, and with the distant view of the rest; and where nature lies in torpid horror, there is surely no inducement, but curiosity, to make travellers expose themselves to danger, in traversing such immense volumes of ice.

The morning on which they departed from Prieuré, our author observed a girl of a singular appearance, sitting before the door of one of the houses. When he spoke to her, she made no answer; but an elderly man informed him that she was an idiot, and had been so from her birth; adding that, all over the valley of Chamouni, one in five was generally destitute of common understanding.

Dr. Moore also remarked the goitres, which have been mentioned by all travellers in the Alpine regions. Observing to a person, that he thought him happy in being quite free from such an odious disease, the peasant replied, that those who were free from goitres were loaded with imposts; whereas the people of the Vallais were exempted. And would you, rejoined our author, accept of goitres, to get free from taxes; “*Très volontiers, Monsieur; l'un vaut bien l'autre.*”

On the morning of the 6th day they bid adieu to Prieuré, and having ascended the mountains, which shut up the valley of Chamouni, at the end opposite to that by which they entered, they gradually sunk into a dreary valley of the most horrid aspect.

At length they ascended Mount Noir, and passed the barrier between the dominions of the king of Sardinia and the Pays de Vallais. A defile commences here which runs for several miles, where a few peasants, arranged on the heights, might check the progress of a considerable army.

Having traversed the country of the Vallais, they arrived at Martigny, which stands near the bottom of the mountain, in good health and spirits.

After a night's refreshment, they waited, with some degree of impatience, for the cabriolets, which had been ordered to meet them there. As soon as they arrived, they set out by the embouchure, which leads to St. Maurice. This opening has the appearance of a vast and magnificent avenue, of some leagues in length, and renders the Vallais accessible to the inhabitants of the canton of Berne.

Having

Having passed the bridge at St. Maurice, a little town which guards the entrance into the Lower Vallais, they proceeded to Bex, a village, delightful for its situation, and famous for its salt-works. They entered the largest saline by a passage cut out of the solid rock, of sufficient height and breadth, to allow a man to walk with ease.

After advancing about three quarters of a mile from the entrance, Dr. Moore was seized with a nausea, from the disagreeable smell of the place, and hastened to return to the open air, leaving his companions to push their researches as far as they pleased.

Next morning early, they left Bex, passing through Aigle, a little town, the houses of which are built of white marble, which abounds in the vicinity.

Not far from this place, they crossed the Rhone in boats, and had a delightful ride to St. Gingo, where they dined. Though it was Sunday, there was a fair that day, which was attended by an immense concourse of people from the Pays de Vallais, the Canton of Bern, and the Duchy of Savoy.

A little beyond St. Gingo, they entered Savoy. The road here is cut out of the lofty rocks which rise from the lakes of Geneva. In some places it is extremely dangerous, and every where requires caution.

The sight of Meillerie recalled the remembrance of Rousseau's two lovers. Dr. Moore says, he sought with his eyes, and imagined he discovered the identical spot, where St. Preux sat with his telescope to view the habitation of the beloved Julia. In imagination, he traced his route, when he sprung from rock to rock, after one of her letters,

letters, which a sudden gust of wind had snatched from his hands. He marked the point at which the two lovers embarked to return to Clarence, when St. Preux, in the distraction of unhappy love, was tempted to seize his mistress, then the wife of another, and precipitate himself, along with her, into the middle of the lake.

Leaving the romantic rocks of Meillerie, they descended to the plain, and continued their journey to Tonon, a town containing many churches and monasteries, and about six or seven thousand inhabitants, one fifth of which appeared to be religious.

Having visited the convent of Carthusians, at Ripaille, where the duke of Savoy, after a fortunate reign, assumed the character of a hermit, and was afterwards elected pope, they arrived, the same afternoon, at Geneva; having, during their absence, finished a tour, in which the greatest number of sublime and interesting objects are combined, that can possibly be found within the same extent, in any other part of the globe.

As Voltaire then lived at Ferney, it may naturally be supposed, that our author could not be in the vicinity, without feeling a wish to visit that extraordinary man. That wish was frequently gratified. Dr. Moore and his friends had frequent conversations with him; and from his interesting description of the philosopher of Ferney, we extract the following particulars:

“The first idea that has presented itself, to all who have attempted to give any idea of his person, is that of a skeleton. In as far as this implies excessive leanness, this may be just; but it must be remembered, that this mere composition of
2 skin

skin and bone, has a look of the utmost spirit and vivacity.

“ The most piercing eyes I ever beheld, are those of Voltaire, now in his eightieth year. His whole countenance, indeed, is expressive of genius, observation, and extreme sensibility.

“ When the weather is favourable, he takes an airing in his coach with his niece, or some of his guests, of whom there is always a sufficient number at Ferney. Sometimes he saunters in his garden ; or, if the weather does not permit him to go abroad, he employs the vacant hour in playing at chess with father Adam, or in receiving the visits of curious or learned travellers.

“ By far the greater part of his time, however, is spent in study. Composition is his principal amusement ; and no author, who writes for his daily bread, no young poet, ardent for distinction, is more assiduous with his pen, or more anxious for fresh fame, than the wealthy and illustrious seigneur of Ferney.

“ He lives in a hospitable manner. About twelve or fourteen people generally dine at his table, whether he appears or not. For, when deeply engaged in literary avocations, or under the pressure of bad spirits, he does not dine with his company ; but merely makes his appearance, for a few minutes, either before, or after dinner.

“ His niece, Madame Denis, does the honours of the table, and entertains company, when her uncle is not able, or is unwilling, to appear.

“ The forenoon is the least proper time to visit Voltaire, because he cannot bear to have his hours of study interrupted. Those who are invited to supper, have an opportunity of seeing him in the most advantageous point of view. He then ex-

erts himself to entertain the company, and seems as fond of saying good things as ever. The spirit of mirth gains upon him by indulgence. When furrounded by his friends, or animated by the presence of women, he seems to enjoy life with all the sensibility of youth. His genius then surmounts the restraints of age and infirmity, and flows along in a fine strain of pleasing, spirited observation, and delicate irony.

“ Considered as a master, Voltaire appears in a very amiable light; he is affable, humane, and generous to his tenants and dependents. He delights in their prosperity; and takes part in all their private and domestic concerns, with the affection of a parent. By his care and patronage alone, Ferney, from a wretched village, whose inhabitants were sunk in sloth and poverty, is become a flourishing and commodious little town.

“ That acrimony, which appears in some of Voltaire's works, seems to be excited only against rival wits and contemporary writers, who refuse him that distinguished rank in the republic of letters, which the general voice allows him.

“ Happy, if this extraordinary man had confined his genius to its native home, to the walks which the muses love; and that he had never deviated from these into the thorny paths of controversy. For, while he attacked the tyrants and oppressors of mankind, and those who have perverted the benevolent nature of Christianity, to the most selfish and malignant purposes, it is matter of the sincerest regret, that he allowed the shafts of his ridicule to glance upon the Christian religion itself.

“ By persevering in this, he has not only shocked the pious, but even disgusted the infidel; and the

the latter seems now to be as much tired of the stale sneer against the Christian doctrines, as of the dullest and most tedious sermon in their support."

While Dr. Moore remained at Geneva, he was asked for his opinion, by a friend in England, respecting a scheme of Lord ——'s sending his sons to be educated there. His arguments are so just, in favour of a native education, and at a public school, in preference to a private one, that we lament not having room to transcribe them all.

"An English boy," says he, "sent to Geneva, at an early period of life, and remaining there six or seven years, if his parents be not along with him, will probably, in the eyes of the English, appear a kind of Frenchman all his life after. This is an inconvenience which ought to be avoided with the greatest attention; as no English man of fashion, who has evinced, in his dress or style of living, a preference to French manners, can escape losing by it in the opinion of his countrymen.

"With regard to the objections against the public schools of England, they are, in many respects, applicable to those of every country; but they do not appear to be sufficient to overbalance the advantages which attend that mode of education, in our country at least.

"At a public school, though a general attention is paid to the whole, in many particulars a boy is necessitated to decide and act for himself. His reputation among his companions depends solely on his own conduct. He acquires a certain hardihood and manliness of character, which never leave him. He imbibes principles of generosity, friendship, and honour; because he finds they command applause and esteem; he learns to despise meanness of spirit, perfidy and ingratitude, because

they are the objects of detestation, wherever they are discovered.

“ In all countries of Europe, England excepted, such deference is paid to boys of rank at the public schools, that emulation, the chief spur to diligence, is greatly blunted. But English boys disdain this mean partiality; and English masters will punish a dunce of high rank with as little ceremony as the son of a taylor. The richest coward will be kicked about by his companions, equally with the poorest poltroon; for diligence, genius, and spirit, are the true sources of superiority and applause, both within and without the English public school.

“ Upon the whole,” says Dr. Moore, “ I am clearly of opinion, that the earliest period of every Englishman's education, during which the mind receives the most lasting impressions, ought to be in England.”

The Duke of Hamilton, having a desire to visit some of the German courts, they bade adieu to their friends at Geneva, and proceeded to Lausanne, along the side of the lake, through vineyards which produce the *vin de la côte*, so much esteemed.

Lausanne enjoys a delightful situation, and stands at the distance of thirty miles from Geneva. As the nobility, from the country, and the families of several officers reside here, there is an air of more ease and gaiety in the societies at Lausanne, than in those of Geneva.

The road between Lausanne and Vevay is very mountainous; but the mountains are covered with vines, to the very summit.

Vevay is a pretty little town, containing between three and four thousand inhabitants. It is sweetly situated on a plain, near the head of the lake of Geneva, where the Rhone enters. The principal

principal church is detached from the town, and stands on the overhanging hill. From the terrace, or church-yard there is a beautiful view of the Alps, the Rhone, the lake, and the towns and villages that line its margin.

Their next stage was Avanches, the ancient capital of Helvetia, from whence they proceeded to Murten, or Murat, a small town, situated on a rising ground, on the side of a lake of the same name.

Here they dined, and amused themselves in the fair, which was then held in the town; after which they continued their journey to Berne, a regular, well-built town, with an air of some magnificence. The houses are of a fine white freestone, and pretty uniform. There are piazzas on each side, with a walk raised four feet above the level of the street, which are very commodious in wet weather.

The public edifices, such as the hospital, the granary, the guard-house, the arsenal, and the churches, are splendid, and well adapted for their respective destinations.

Determining to pursue the direct road to Strasbourg, they passed next through Soleure, an agreeable little town, situated on the Aar. The houses are neat and cleanly; and the common people seem to be in easier circumstances, and to have a greater air of content than is usual, even in Switzerland.

The inn where they lodged, reminded them of an English one, from the comforts it afforded. The arsenal is well stored with arms; and there are trophies, and other ornaments of the valour of their ancestors. In the middle of the hall are thirteen men, in complete armour, representing the thirteen Swiss cantons.

The country between Soleure and Basle, though very hilly, is extremely beautiful. It was the gay season of the vintage; and the country was crowded with peasantry of both sexes, and every age, all employed in gathering and carrying home the grapes. In all countries, this is a season of joy and festivity, and approaches nearest to the exaggerated descriptions which ancient poets have given us of rural felicity.

When they arrived at Basle, they took up their abode at the Three Kings inn, where they dined and supped at an ordinary. Next to our author sat a genteel-looking man, from Strasbourg, with whom he entered into conversation; who had, for his companion, a round-faced, rosy, plump gentleman, from Amsterdam, that could only speak Dutch. Dr. Moore was lamenting that he could not talk with him in that language. This being interpreted by his friend, the Dutchman, heard it with great composure, and then pulling his pipe from his mouth, observed, that they ought to console themselves for the accident of not understanding each other; for, as they had no connection in trade, their conversing could not possibly answer any useful purpose.

This shews the sentiments of a Hollander to the life: he values nothing that is not conducive to his interest; and thinks speech of no other use than to promote his trade.

Basle is the largest town in Switzerland, but not so populous, for its size, as Geneva. The inhabitants seem to be of a reserved and saturnine disposition, which they probably consider as a proof of wisdom. But how an unremitting gravity and solemnity of manner, in the common affairs of life, come to be considered as indications of wisdom or of abilities, is perfectly incomprehensible. So

So many ridiculous things occur every day in this world, that men, who are endowed with that sensibility of mind which usually accompanies genius, find it very difficult to maintain a continued gravity. In law, physic, and divinity, the individuals, who have been most successful in keeping up this farce, and who never deviate from established forms, have not always been distinguished for real knowledge or genius; though they have been generally most admired by the multitude, who are apt to mistake gravity for wisdom, which actually proceeds from a literal weight of brain, and muddiness of understanding. Mistakes of the same kind, however, are frequently made in forming a judgment of books as well as men.

Nothing can be a finer contrast with the mountains of Switzerland, than the plains of Alsace. From Basle to Strasbourg is a continuous, well-cultivated plain, almost as flat as a bowling green.

They passed some days very agreeably in Strasbourg. Indeed, it is almost impossible to be at a loss for good company and amusement, in a place where there is a numerous French garrison.

After dining one day with Marshal Contades, the commander of the garrison and governor of the province, he invited his company to his box at the play-house. Voltaire's *Enfant Prodigue* was acted: the afterpiece was the *Frenchman in London*, in which our nation is a little bantered.

An old French officer, in the next box, seemed uneasy, and hurt at the peals of laughter which burst from the audience at some particular passages. He touched Dr. Moore's shoulder, and assured

assured him, that no nation was more respected in France than the English; adding, "Hanc veniam damus, petimusque vicissim." *petimusque*

Besides the French, there are two German regiments in this garrison. These last admit of the discipline of the cane upon every slight occasion, which is never permitted among the French troops. Notwithstanding these severe flappers, to rouse their attention, the German regiments do not go through their exercise with more precision or alertness than the French.

Perhaps, what improves the hardy and phlegmatic German, would have a contrary effect on the delicate and lively Frenchman; as the same severity which is requisite to train a pointer, would render a greyhound good for nothing.

Severity would break the spirit of the French, and impair that fire and impetuosity in attack, for which they have been distinguished, and which makes the troops of that nation more formidable than any other quality they possess.

The French officers, in general, speak to the common soldiers with an easy, familiar air, and an appearance of good will. This, it appears, does not diminish the respect and obedience which they owe to their officers, nor is it derogatory to that degree of subordination which military discipline exacts.

The cathedral of Strasbourg is a very fine building, and never fails to attract the notice of strangers. That religious melancholy, which usually possesses the mind in large Gothic churches, is here considerably counteracted by certain satirical bas reliefs, with which the pillars and cornices were originally ornamented. The vices of monks are here exposed under the allegorical

allegorical figures of hogs, asses, monkeys, and foxes, which, being dressed in monkish habits, perform the most venerable functions of religion. And for the edification of those who do not comprehend allegory, a monk, in the robes of his order, is carved on the pulpit, in a most indecent posture, with a nun for his companion.

The great clock, and its various movements, though an object of admiration, when first constructed, is beheld with indifference by modern artists.

Dr. Moore had the curiosity to ascend the steeple, which is reckoned the highest in Europe, it being five hundred and seventy-four feet. The view from it is grand beyond expression.

Among the curiosities of the cathedral, should be mentioned two large bells. One is of brass, and weighs ten tons: the other of silver, which they say weighs above two. They also shew a large horn, of which they give the following history. About four hundred years ago, the Jews formed a conspiracy to betray the city, and with this identical horn, they intended to give the enemy notice when to begin the attack. The plot, however, was discovered; many of the Jews were burnt alive, and the rest were plundered of their money and effects, and banished the town.

This horn is sounded twice every night, from the battlements of the steeple, in gratitude for such a deliverance; though the Jews deny every circumstance of the story, except the murder and pillaging of their countrymen.

Crossing the Rhine, they came to Raftade, the capital of the margrave of Baden Durlach's dominions. It is small, and not very populous. The margrave's palace, however, is sufficiently large.

After

After a short stay here, they proceeded to Karlsruhe, where there is another magnificent palace belonging to that prince, built in a good taste. The town is constructed on a regular plan. It consists of one principal street, of above an English mile in length. All the subordinate streets go off at different angles from the principal one, in such a manner, that, which ever way you walk, as you enter them, the view is terminated by the front of the palace.

The houses of the town are as uniform as the streets, being all of an equal size and height. There are, indeed, a few new houses, more elegant than the others, built at one side of the palace; but they are not, properly speaking, belonging to the town, and, therefore, do not detract from its symmetry.

Being announced in the usual form to the margrave, who was then resident here, an officer waited on the Duke of Hamilton, and conducted them to the palace.

There were at dinner, the reigning prince and princess, three of their sons, and several others, to the number of thirty persons. The entertainment was splendid, and the margrave behaved with the utmost politeness and affability.

The same company met to supper, after the strangers had taken a view of the palace and gardens. A band of music played during the repast, and the day went off most agreeably.

The Margrave of Baden Durlach is between forty and fifty years of age. He is a man of learning, sense, and benevolence. His humanity and attention to his subjects entitle him to the highest panegyric. He speaks the English language

guage with facility, and is well acquainted with our best authors.

The German princes are very attentive to form. The same establishment for their household, the same officers in the palace, are to be found here, as in the court of the most powerful monarch in Europe. The difference lies in their salaries, rather than in the talents requisite for the places.

The margrave keeps on foot no other troops than are necessary for the duty of the palace, having too much understanding not to perceive, that the greatest army he could maintain would be no defence to his dominions, and would exhaust his coffers. At the same time, his principles and disposition keep him from hiring his subjects to foreign powers.

Happy would it be for mankind, if the almost unlimited authority, which the German princes possess, were always placed in such equitable hands as those of the Margrave of Baden, who employs it entirely for the good of his subjects; and, in return, meets with a respect from them bordering on adoration. But far more fortunate are they, who are born under a government which can protect them, independent of the virtues, and in spite of the vices of their sovereign.

Leaving Karlsruhe, they had the margrave's permission to travel by a new road, through a noble forest, several leagues in length. After having traversed this, they fell in with the common posting road, entered the bishop of Spire's territories, passed by the town of that name, and the same evening arrived at Mannheim, the capital of the electorate of the palatine.

This is generally reckoned one of the most beautiful cities in Germany. The streets are perfectly

fectly straight, and intersect each other at right angles. They calculate the number of inhabitants at twenty-four thousand, including the garrison of five thousand men.

Manheim has three noble gates, adorned with basso relievos, very beautifully executed. The fortifications are well constructed and in good order, and the town derives additional strength from being almost entirely surrounded by the Neckar and the Rhine.

The electoral palace is a most magnificent structure. The cabinet of natural curiosities, and the collection of pictures, are much extolled. To examine them is amusing enough; but to describe them would be tedious.

The elector is a man of taste and magnificence, qualities which, probably, afford more pleasure to himself, and the strangers that pass this way, than to his subjects.

They were presented to the elector and electress. The former was dressed in the uniform of his guards, and appeared to be about fifty years of age.

The hereditary prince is a young man of knowledge and good sense. He asked many questions respecting England; and seemed well acquainted with the state of parties and the current politics.

One day, that they had the honour to dine with the elector and his family, a buffoon came into the room. He walked round, and conversed familiarly with every body present; and his observations were followed by loud bursts of applause from all whom he addressed.

As he spoke in German, our author could not judge of his wit; but an old officer, who sat by him, was polite enough to explain, in French,
some

some of his most brilliant repartees. Whether the spirit of the jest was allowed to evaporate in the translation, Dr. Moore cannot tell; but he could not smell a particle, when the process was over.

This is, perhaps, the only example remaining of a court fool, or a licensed jester, an office formerly in all the courts of Europe. Are kings become wiser, or are pretended fools more scarce?

They made an excursion to Heidelberg, situated about four leagues from Mannheim, in a hollow, on the banks of the Neckar. More cheerful scenes of exuberant fertility cannot be seen, than along the fine chain of hills which begin near this town.

The electoral palace is seated on an eminence, which commands the town, and a view of the valley below; but the castle itself is unfortunately commanded by another eminence too near it, from which this noble building was cannonaded, when the whole palatinate was pillaged and burnt by Turenne.

While they were in the castle, they did not omit visiting the famous Heidelberg tun; but being then quite empty, it made but a dull and uninteresting appearance.

The inhabitants of the palatinate are partly Protestants, partly Catholics, who live in great harmony with each other; and the great church at Heidelberg is divided between them.

After spending a day here, they returned to Mannheim, from whence they soon after set out for Mentz.

It is very easy travelling through this part of Germany, the roads being perfectly good, and the country a continued plain.

By the great number of monks and friars, of all colours and conditions, that were to be met with near Mentz, they were apprized of their entrance into an ecclesiastical state; while the plump persons, and rosy complexions of these holy men, proved that they enjoyed the good things of this world in abundance.

However good Christians they may be, many of them had the appearance of paying their occasional devotions to the god of wine. One of them, in particular, appeared to have just risen from his devotions, and moved along in the most unconcerned manner imaginable, muttering to himself as he went.

"Does he repeat his Pater Noster?" said I. I rather imagine he prays from Horace, replied the Duke of Hamilton,

*Quo me Bacche rapis tui
Plenum?*

On both sides of the Rhine, the ground begins here to become hilly and irregular, forming banks finely exposed to the sun. Here the best Rhenish wine is produced, and every spot of ground is valuable, and cultivated to a high degree.

Mentz is delightfully situated, but irregularly built. The cathedral is a gloomy pile. In this there is a treasury, containing a number of clumsy jewels, some relics, and a rich wardrobe of priests vestments.

There are some troops in this capital; but the officers, if we may judge from their looks, are conscious that they are degraded by having the clergy for their masters.

The streets swarm with ecclesiastics, some of them in fine coaches, and attended by a number of servants. Our author remarked many genteel airy abbés, who were the most fashionable people, and gave the tone to the place.

Though it is most evident, that the clergy have taken very good care of their own interests; yet it must be acknowledged, that the people also seem to be in an easy situation. Even the peasantry appear more comfortable than those of France, or even those in the Elector Palatine's dominions.

The Duke of Hamilton not having any ambition to be introduced at an ecclesiastical court, they staid here but a short time.

From Mentz they travelled to Frankfort on the Maine. The streets of this city are spacious and well paved; the houses are stately, clean, and convenient; the shops are well furnished; the dress, air, numbers, and manners of the inhabitants, sufficiently shew that there is no little despot within their walls to impoverish them in support of his grandeur, or put their persons under restraint by his caprice.

The houses are of brick, but are covered with a reddish stucco, which gives them a better appearance than naked bricks generally have. The fronts of some of the more capital buildings are adorned with bas reliefs of white stucco, in imitation of marble. These white ornaments, on a red ground, form too strong a contrast, and destroy the simplicity of the design.

All religions are tolerated here, under certain restrictions; but Lutheranism is the established faith. The principal church, however, is in possession of the Catholics, though no public proces-

fions of the host are permitted in the streets. All the ceremonies of their religion are confined to the houses of individuals, or performed within the walls of the church.

The Jews have a synagogue here, where they perform their religious rites; but the Calvinists have never been allowed any public house of worship within the territory of Frankfort.

Though Frankfort may be regarded as a fine town, and the effect produced by the whole is magnificent, yet there are no buildings, in particular, worthy of attention.

All strangers, however, visit the town-house, and see the chamber where the emperor is elected. And it would be reckoned a want of taste, not to see the famous golden bull, which is kept here; an exhibition of which costs a ducat; a sufficient price, surely, for a glance at an old piece of parchment, which few can read.

A countryman of ours complained loudly of the imposition; and on hearing a German talk of the high price which every thing bore in England, retorted on him in these words: "*Il n'y a rien en Angleterre si cher que votre taureau d'or à Frankfort**."

A singular custom is observed here, the origin of which Dr. Moore could not learn. Two women appear every day, at noon, on the battlements of the principal steeple, and play some very solemn airs with trumpets. This music is accompanied by vocal psalmody, performed by four or five men, who always attend the female trumpeters for that purpose.

* It is impossible to translate this, and preserve the misapplication of language, in which the humour lies.

The people here, indeed, have a violent taste for psalm singing. There are a considerable number of men and boys, who follow this as their only profession. They are engaged by some families to officiate two or three times a week, in the morning, before the master and mistress of the family get out of bed.

When a person, in any tolerable circumstances, dies, a band of these sweet fingers assembles in the streets before the house; and chants an hour every day to the corpse, till it is interred. They likewise follow the funerals, which are conducted with great solemnity.

There are some villages near Frankfort, consisting entirely of French refugees, who left their country at the revocation of the edict of Nantz. Their descendants speak French in their common conversation, and retain many of their original customs to this hour.

The number of Jews, in Frankfort, is prodigious, considering the restraints to which they are subjected, in being obliged to live all together in a single street, built up at one end, with a large gate at the other, which is regularly shut at a certain hour of the night. After this no Jew dares to appear in the streets; but the whole herd remain cooped up till morning. As this street is narrow, and the inhabitants not remarkable for their cleanliness, it may easily be supposed, that the Jews' quarter is not the most inviting part of the town.

They have several times made considerable offers to be permitted to build, or purchase, another street for their accommodation; but all such proposals have been hitherto rejected. Why, no one can tell.

The Jews, however, employ the day to good advantage, and their profits must be very considerable, or they never would submit to their degrading situation in Frankfort.

Dr. Moore made a long stay in this place, and formed an acquaintance with some very worthy people. Society is divided into noblesse and bourgeois. The first consists of some noble families, from different parts of Germany, who have fixed their residence here, and a few original citizens of Frankfort, who have now obtained patents of nobility. The citizens, who connect themselves with strangers, are persons who have made their fortunes by commerce, which some of them still follow on a large scale.

There is a public assembly for the nobility once a week, at which they drink tea, or play at cards from six to ten o'clock. On the other nights the same company meet alternately at each other's houses, where they spend the evening in the same manner.

None of the bourgeois are invited to these parties, but they have similar assemblies among themselves, and they entertain the strangers, with whom they are acquainted, in a very hospitable manner at their houses.

The distinction of ranks is observed in Germany with the most scrupulous precision; and even at places of public resort, the higher classes have the front seats reserved for them, while the citizens are content to sit behind.

Dr. Moore and his friends attended the theatre, where a troop of German comedians performed a translation of George Barnwell, with considerable alterations, which render the catastrophe less

less horrid, as the piece winds up with a marriage, instead of an execution.

Most of the plays represented on the German stage, are translations from the English or French; for Germany, so fertile in writers in divinity, jurisprudence, medicine and chemistry, till of late, has had few poets. The German muse, however, seems to be roused from her long sleep; and she has come abroad with an energy, which has astonished and delighted all Europe.

Among the winter amusements of this place, traineau parties, as they are called, may be mentioned. These can only take place during a hard frost, or when a considerable quantity of snow lies on the ground.

A traineau is a machine in the shape of a horse, lion, swan, or some fanciful representation, without wheels, but made below like a sledge, for the purpose of sliding over the snow. Some of them are highly ornamented. A pole stands up from one side, to which a flag is fastened. A lady, wrapt in furs, sits before, and a gentleman stands behind, on a board made for that purpose.

Two horses draw the vehicle, either conducted by a postillion, or driven by the gentleman. The horses are gaudily ornamented, and have bells hanging from their trappings.

Sometimes a party consists of thirty traineaux, each attended by two or three servants on horseback, with flambeaux; for this amusement is usually taken when it is dark. The horses go at a brisk trot, round the principal streets or squares: the motion of the carriage is easy, and the whole makes a gay and lively spectacle.

Having pretty well satisfied their curiosity in Frankfort, they set out in a traineau for Hanau.

This

This is the residence of the hereditary prince of Hesse Cassel. As they entered the town, they met the princess with some ladies of her court, taking the air in a traineau.

After a short stay at Hanau, they again returned to Frankfort, to which the Duke of Hamilton seems to have shewn a great predilection, and where he and our author were received in the most friendly way by all classes of people.

They made various short excursions round the environs ; and after visiting the court of Darmstadt, they again returned to Frankfort.

The reigning prince not being there, they paid their first visit to the princess Maximilian, his aunt. She invited them to supper and cards the same evening, when they found a party of about ten persons at table. The princess was gay, affable, and talkative, and on the whole they thought her one of the most agreeable old women they had ever met with.

Next morning they attended the parade, an object of the greatest attention at this place. The prince has a most enthusiastic passion for the military art. Drilling and exercising his soldiers are his chief amusements. That he may enjoy this in all kinds of weather, he has built a room sufficiently capacious to allow one thousand five hundred full scope to perform their exercise in it, all at once.

On the morning they were present, there was only the ordinary guard, consisting of three hundred men, who having performed their exercises, and marched for an hour up and down this spacious gymnasium, were dismissed to their respective posts.

The Darmstadt soldiers are tall, and cleanly dressed. They go through their manœuvres with great adroitness.

There is no regular fortification round this town, but a very high stone wall, merely intended to prevent desertion, to which the garrison, it seems, are extremely inclined, having little relish for the warlike amusements which constitute the supreme joy of their sovereign.

Sentinels are placed at proper distances all round the wall, who are obliged to be exceedingly alert. Every part of garrison duty is performed with equal exactness, and all neglects are as severely punished as if in actual service. Hence the duty becomes very hard, and perhaps feels more unpleasant, because it is without a sufficient object to justify it.

There is a small body of cavalry, dressed in buff coats, and magnificently accoutred. These are the horse-guards of the prince. As a body of men, they are remarkably fine, none of them being under six feet three inches in height, and several are considerably above that gigantic stature.

The whole army at present does not exceed five thousand men; and as the prince's finances are in very great disorder, numbers blame him for keeping up such a military establishment, which, though burdensome to the country, is inadequate to its defence, and much too large for mere amusement.

Same day, our travellers dined with the prince Maximilian, and in the afternoon were presented to the family of the brother of the reigning prince.

The ensuing morning they were invited to breakfast by the Baron Riedesal, at a pleasant country

country house near the town. The Duke of Hamilton went with him in a carriage of a very particular construction. The baron sat on a low seat next the horses, and drove the duke, on a more elevated seat behind him. Behind all is a wooden seat in the shape of a little horse, on which two servants were mounted.

The usual post chaises in this country, are large enough to hold six persons; and people, even of the first rank, take their servants into the carriage with them. In point of economy, they are well imagined, and in time of frost not inconvenient.

Dr. Moore went in Count Cullemberg's coach. They passed the morning very agreeably; and returned to dine with the prince's brother. He has a fine person, and all the ease and openness of the military character.

His second son, who had been absent some weeks, returned while they were at table. It was pleasing to observe the satisfaction which this incident diffused over the faces of father, mother, and the whole family.

"Do not suspect," says our author, "that I am prejudiced in favour of this family, because it belongs to a prince. An appearance of domestic happiness is always agreeable, whether it be found in a palace or a cottage; and the same symptoms of good humour, though they would not have surprised me so much, would have equally delighted me in the family of a peasant."

Soon after their return to Frankfort, the weather became so very unfavourable, that they could scarcely stir from home. The time was, therefore, spent in conversation, and in making additional remarks on the manners and customs of the place.

Among

Among the remarkable things in Frankfort, says our author, may be reckoned the inns. Two in particular, the Emperor and the Red House, are superior to most on the continent, and may vie with the most magnificent inns in England.

At these, as at all other houses of public accommodation, both in Germany and Switzerland, there is an ordinary, at which strangers may dine and sup. This called the *Table d'Hôte*, from the circumstance of the landlord's sitting at the bottom of the table, and carving the victuals. The same name is still retained in France, though the cause of it is obsolete.

There are no private lodgings to be had here, as in London; nor any hotels garnis, as in Paris. Strangers, therefore, occupy apartments at the inn, during the whole time of their residence in any of the towns. And travellers, of every denomination, under the rank of sovereign princes, make no scruple of eating occasionally at the *table d'hôte* of the inn where they lodge.

Many of our countrymen, however, who despise economy, and hate the society of foreigners, prefer eating in their own apartments, or at any private table, to which they may be invited.

This is certainly a glaring absurdity in their conduct; for if they wish to avoid the company of strangers, and have no ambition to improve from their manners or conversation, they might indulge their fancy as completely at home as abroad, and save themselves the expence and inconvenience of travelling.

The manners and genius of nations, it is true, are not to be caught at inns; yet a person of observation, and who is fond of the study of character, will sometimes find instruction and entertainment

tainment in such places. He there sees the inhabitants of a country in a less ceremonious footing than he can elsewhere; and hears remarks, which in more select society would not be made.

The first care of a traveller, certainly should be to form an acquaintance, and some degree of intimacy with the principal people, to accept invitations to their family parties, and attend their societies;—to entertain them at his apartments in return; and endeavour to acquire a just notion of their government, customs, sentiments, and manner of living. Those who are fond of the study of man, will mix occasionally with all degrees of people; and when not better engaged, will try to reap improvement from the mixed company at a table d'hôte.

A knowledge of the characters of men, as they appear varied in different situations and countries, is highly interesting to the mind, and worthy the attention of the sublimest genius. This is not to be perfectly attained in courts and palaces. The investigator of nature must visit her in humbler life, and put himself on a level with the men he wishes to know.

It is, indeed, generally found that those who possess real greatness of mind, never hesitate to overleap the obstacles, and despise the forms which may stand in the way of their acquiring an accurate knowledge of their kind.

In Germany, even the ladies of condition, when on a journey, do not decline appearing at a table d'hôte; and our author says, he has met at them some of the handsomest women he ever saw in the country, though female beauty appears indigenous here.

The French ladies have most expression; but the German have incomparably the best skin, and the finest bloom. They have a greater resemblance to the English than the French women, yet they differ considerably from both. The French are all volatility, and fond of social converse; the manner of an English woman is not quite devoid of restraint; and she sometimes seems rather to repel than invite the freedom of address. A German beauty, however, without the smart air of the one, or the reserve of the other, has generally a more placid look than either.

Several individuals, at Frankfort, are fond of distinguishing themselves by their passion for the fine arts, and there are certain private collections worth visiting.

It is still more the fashion here to form cabinets of natural curiosities. Besides the repositories of this kind which are in the possession of princes, many individuals, all over Germany, have museums in their houses; and strangers cannot pay their court better, than by wishing to see them.

This piece of politeness might be easily paid, did not the proprietor attend, and give the history of every piece of ore, petrification, and monster, that is in the collection, with tedious minuteness. To those who are really fond of such objects, this cannot fail to be gratifying; but most would be satisfied with a cursory survey, and be ready to dispense with a set explanatory lecture.

After a considerable stay at Frankfort, they took leave of their kind friends, and bade it a final adieu.

The first night of their journey, they slept at Marburg, and the second arrived at Cassel.

As the ground was covered with snow, and the roads bad, they were obliged to have six horses to each chaise, which, after all, in some places moved no faster than hearses.

The contrast of character, between the French and Germans, is strongly illustrated by the behaviour of their postillions.

A French postillion is generally either laughing or fretting, or singing or swearing. If any impediment in the road obliges him to slacken his usual pace, he will crack his whip above his head for a quarter of an hour together, without rhyme or reason; for he knows his horses cannot get on faster, nor does he intend they should. Quiet, however, is unnatural to a Frenchman; and he must be doing something to exercise his faculties.

A German postillion, on the contrary, will drive four horses with all possible tranquillity. He only smokes his pipe, except when he comes near a narrow defile, when he sounds his trumpet, to prevent any carriage from entering at the other end till he has got through.

If he is asked to go faster, he turns about, and taking his pipe from his mouth, says, yaw, Myn-heer, yaw, yaw; and then proceeds exactly in the same pace as before.

He is neither affected by the goodness or badness of the roads or weather, and he seems to be totally regardless of the people whom he drives, and indifferent about their reproach or applause. His only object is, and of this he never loses sight, to conduct the chaise and its contents from one post to another, in the manner most favourable for himself and his horses.

At the court of Cassel our travellers met with such a flattering reception, that they made a longer stay than was originally intended.

When they were to dine at the palace, they generally went half an hour before the time, and mixed with the officers who had been invited, who were all assembled in a large room.

There were about thirty covers every day in the dining parlour, and the same number in an adjoining room. The doors being left open between these apartments, the whole, in a manner, forms but one company. Strangers, and such officers as are not under the rank of colonel, dine at their highnesses table.

The repast continues about two hours, during which the conversation is carried on with some appearance of constraint, and rather in a low voice. After dinner, the company returns to the room where they first assembled, and where they remain till the landgrave retires. Soon after the prince is gone, they separate, and assemble again at seven in the evening.

The landgrave constantly plays at cavaniole, a kind of lottery, that requires about a dozen to make a party; but neither address nor attention is requisite to manage it; nor need it materially interrupt conversation.

The landgravine plays at quadrille, and chuses her own party every night. Other card tables are set in the adjoining rooms, where gaming continues about a couple of hours.

Supper is then served, and at this repast there is more ease and gaiety than at dinner, because there is less formality.

There are certain gala days, which are distinguished only by the company's being more numerous, and better dressed, two circumstances which seldom add much to the pleasure of an entertainment.

During the carnival, there are two or three masquerades. On these occasions the court assemble about six in the evening; the men being all in dominos, and the ladies in their usual dresses, or with such additional ornaments as suit their fancy.

They amuse themselves with cards and conversation till the hour of supper. During this interval, tickets are drawn separately by the ladies and gentlemen, and the numbers being called over, the gentleman who has the same with a lady, takes her under his protection at supper, and is her partner for the remainder of the evening.

After supper, all the company put on their masks, when her highness enters the masquerade room, and minuets soon after begin. The landgravine usually dances nine or ten minuets successively, with as many different gentlemen. She then takes her seat till the rest of the company have performed their minuets, after which cotillions and country dances begin, and continue till four or five in the morning.

Besides the company who sup at court, the rooms are generally crowded with masks from the town, some of whom are in fancy dresses, and keep themselves concealed from knowledge.

The country-dances are composed of all persons promiscuously, who incline to join in them. Even ladies of easy virtue have been known to dance every masquerade night in the same country dance with the landgravine; for the mask annihilates ceremony, puts every body on a footing, and by concealing the face, serves only more clearly to discover the real character and inclination of the wearer.

Next to the electors, the landgrave of Hesse Cassel is one of the greatest princes in Germany. His country is in general hilly and sylvan; but interspersed with fertile valleys and corn fields.

The reigning prince made a public profession of the Roman Catholic religion, in the life time of the late landgrave, his father. This gave great uneasiness to the old prince, and alarmed his subjects, who are all Protestants.

The states of the landgraviate were assembled on this important occasion, and firm measures were taken to maintain the religion and constitution of the country, against any future attempt to subvert them. The hereditary prince was excluded from all care in the education of his sons; and immediately on his father's accession to the landgraviate, the eldest was put in possession of the country of Hanau.

The inhabitants, indeed, seem to have felt no inconvenience from the change of their prince's religion, nor has he reaped any earthly advantage, either in point of profit or honour, by his apostacy; so that his hopes must be limited to the rewards that await him in another world.

This prince keeps on foot sixteen thousand men, in time of peace, disciplined according to the Prussian plan. He is fond of exercising them; and when the weather is very unfavourable, rather than lose this amusement, he manœuvres them in his dining room*.

Our author says he has the happiness to be well acquainted with several distinguished officers

* The prince of Hesse Cassel is one of the greatest military contractors in Germany. He derives large subsidies from the loan of his soldiers, and all the deficiencies are made good in money.

in this service, to whom he felt the warmer attachment, from the affectionate and generous style in which they always spoke of the British commanders, with whom they had been connected. An open manner, and undefining civility distinguish the German character; qualities which naturally banish reserve, and inspire confidence.

While they remained at Cassel, a company of French comedians were performing there. They had been engaged by the landgrave for about two months, at a stipulated sum for acting twice a week during that space.

The play-house is neat, though small. The front gallery, with a convenient room behind, is appropriated for the court. Whenever the prince or princess stands up, all the audience immediately rise, and remain in a standing posture till their sovereign sits down.

The city of Cassel is situated on the river Fulda, and consists of an old and a new quarter. The former is the largest, but is very irregular. The new town is well built, and there the nobility and principal officers reside.

Beside the large chateau in the town of Cassel, which forms the landgrave's winter abode, he has several villas and castles in different parts of his dominions. Immediately without the town is a beautiful edifice, in which he lives for the most part of the summer. Some of the apartments are highly decorated, and contain antique statues of no small value.

This palace has a flat roof, which is appropriated for the exercise of his soldiers, whenever this favourite recreation of the prince is agreeable.

Round this lie some noble parks and gardens, with an orangery and menagery. In the latter
are

are several curious foreign animals, both of beasts and birds.

The academy of arts, situated in the new town, contains some valuable antiques and other curiosities, among which is a St. John in Mosaic, done after a picture of Raphael. This tedious art of copying paintings in Mosaic, has been brought to great perfection, particularly at Rome.

They also shew a sword, which was consecrated by the pope, and sent to one of the princes of this family, at his setting out on an expedition to the Holy Land. What havoc this sacred weapon made, among the Infidels, we are not told, but it does not seem to be much worse for the wear.

Nothing in the country of Hesse, however, is more worthy the admiration of travellers than the Gothic temple, and cascade at Wassenstein. At this place there was originally an old building, used as a hunting seat. It is situated at the bottom of a high mountain, and has been enlarged and improved at different periods. But the grandfather of the present prince, formed on the face of the mountain, opposite to this house, a series of artificial cataracts, cascades, and various kinds of water-works, which display equal taste and magnificence.

The principal cascades are in the centre; and on each side are stairs of large black stones, of a flinty texture. Each of these stairs consists of eight hundred steps, leading from the bottom to the summit of the mountain; and when the works are allowed to play, the water, dashing over them, forms two continued chains of smaller cascades.

MOORE'S VIEW OF SOCIETY

At convenient distances in the ascent, are four platforms, with a spacious basin in each, also grottos and caves ornamented with shell work, statues of naiades and sea divinities. The water rushes from the summit of this mountain in various shapes:—sometimes in detached cascades, sometimes in large sheets, and in one place it is broken by a mass of huge stones, placed artificially for that purpose. There are also fountains, which eject the water to a considerable height.

On the highest part of the mountain, a Gothic temple is built, and on the top of that an obelisk, crowded by a colossal statue of Hercules leaning on his club, in the attitude of the Farnese statue. This figure is of copper, and thirty feet high. There is a stair case within the club, by which a man may ascend, and have a view of the country from a window at the top.

Wafenstein, says Dr. Moore, is infinitely the noblest work of the kind I ever saw, and I have been assured, there is nothing equal to it in Europe. It has not the air of a modern work, but rather conveys the idea of Roman magnificence. Highly delighted with Cassel, they at last took their leave of the court and their friends, and proceeded towards Gottingen.

The Fulda was so swollen, in consequence of a thaw, that it was not without difficulty and delay they could cross it at Munden, a town situated in a vale, where that river, being joined by another, takes the name of the Weser.

The same night they reached Gottingen, a very neat and well-built town, situated in a beautiful country. The university, founded here by George

George II. has gained considerable reputation*. After a short stay, they proceeded to Brunswick.

As the Duke of Hamilton had, for some time, been expected at this court, he was received with every mark of attention and regard. He was pressed to accept of apartments within the palace; but this honour he declined; though they, in a manner lived at court; except twice a week, dining with the hereditary prince and princess, at their apartments.

“The reigning duke,” says Dr. Moore, “has that style of conversation, those manners and dispositions, which, in an inferior station of life, would gain him the character of a very respectable and sensible gentleman.”

The duchess is the favourite sister of the king of Prussia. She is fond of studies, even of the most abstract kind.

The military fame and public character of Duke Ferdinand are known to all Europe. He is splendid in his manner of living, but attentive to the very minutiae of ceremony and dress.

The hereditary prince served under his uncle, during the last war, with great military credit, particularly for spirit and enterprise, the usual concomitants of youth.

His princess is sister to the king of Great Britain. Her open, cheerful character is well known in England, nor does her affection for her native country seem to diminish by absence†.

* Several of our princes have been educated here; but we must suppose this to have originated from political reasons, and not from any superiority Gottingen has over our own universities.

† She is mother to the Princess of Wales.

This illustrious family, no less distinguished for the members that compose it, than for being the parent-stock of the present line of British sovereigns, usually dine and sup together, with such officers and strangers as they chuse to invite, to the number of twenty or thirty.

In the evening, the assembly is more numerous, when several card-parties are formed; but the whole is intended merely for pastime, as all kinds of gaming are discouraged. A man here must have very bad luck to lose above twenty pistoles in an evening.

After they had been some weeks at Brunswick, they made an excursion to visit Duke Ferdinand, who was then at his country house, about six miles distant. In that retreat he passes the greatest part of his time. He is fond of gardening, and shews a particular predilection for laying out and dressing his grounds in the English taste.

The house is surrounded with a fossé, and contains a great number of apartments. The walls of every room are hung with prints, from the roof, to within two feet of the floor. Perhaps this is the most complete collection, of the produce of the graver, in any palace in the world. His highness observed, that he had lately received a reinforcement of prints from England, which, as he was already full, would oblige him to build new apartments to place them in—"puisque je suis toujours accoutumé à donner un poste honorable aux Anglois."

The company had been invited to breakfast; but, in fact, the repast was a very sumptuous dinner, served a little earlier than usual. The prince was remarkably gay and affable; and called for toasts after the English mode, taking
care,

care, when it came to his turn, to give some British officer of distinction.

The town of Brunswick is situated in a plain, on the banks of the Oder. The houses, in general, are old; but new buildings are daily arising, and the place gradually acquiring a more modern aspect.

The fortifications are pretty strong; and, on some occasions, have been of service to the place, particularly in 1761, when the city, though closely besieged, was relieved by prince Frederick.

The academy at Brunswick is in considerable reputation, and students resort to it from many parts of Germany, and even a few are sent from Britain. Such of them as are intended for a military life, can no where find more advantages united, than at the academy of Brunswick, nor have fewer temptations to dissipation and expence.

Our author and company passed a day at Wolfenbüttele, which is also a fortified city, and the ancient residence of this family. The public library here is in high estimation, and contains many curious manuscripts. They shew some original letters of Luther.

In their way back, they took a view of Saltz-dahlen, a palace, wholly built of wood. It contains some very magnificent apartments, and a large gallery of pictures, some of the most capital merit. In this palace, there is likewise a cabinet of china ware, containing seven or eight thousand pieces; and, in a smaller cabinet, they were shewn a collection of coarse plates, valuable only on account of their having been painted after designs by Raphael.

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The country about Brunswick has an agreeable appearance. In the environs are several gentlemen's seats, a sight very rare in Germany, as most of them are cooped up in towns*; and, in travelling a great extent of country, few houses are to be seen for any order of men between the prince and the peasant.

At the court of Brunswick, they were again entertained with masquerades. Indeed, it is not to be wondered at, that the Germans of high rank are fond of this species of amusement; for being so much harassed by ceremony and form, they are glad to seize every opportunity of assuming the mask and the domino, that they may taste the pleasures of familiar conversation and social mirth.

The Duke of Hamilton, having determined to pay his respects to the Queen of Denmark, who was then at Zell, they set out for that place. They were introduced to that unfortunate princess, who entertained them between dinner and supper with a concert of music, and appeared in better spirits than might have been expected.

Zell is a small town, without trade or manufacture. The houses are old, and have a mean appearance; yet the high court of appeal for all the territories of the electoral house of Brunswick Lünenburg are held here; and the inhabitants derive their principal means of subsistence from this advantage.

The officers of the court, the queen's maids of honour, and other attendants, have a genteel appearance, and retain the most respectful attachment to their ill-fated mistress. Every thing

* This, probably, arises as much from a love of security as of luxury. In a country liable to be overrun by an enemy, there is little encouragement to build magnificent country seats.

seems to be arranged in the style of the small German courts, and nothing was wanting to render the queen's situation as comfortable as circumstances would permit. The princess of Brunswick, however, is her chief consolation; and this humane and affectionate sister has displayed more attachment to her, since her misfortunes, than she ever did, while the queen was in the zenith of prosperity*.

From Zell they went to Hanover, and, on the evening of their arrival, had the pleasure of hearing Handel's Messiah performed. Some of the first company of the town were assembled on the occasion, and they were introduced to Field Marshal Sporhen, and other persons of distinction.

Hanover is a neat, thriving, and agreeable city. It has very much the air of an English city, and, indeed, the manners and customs of our country are daily gaining ground among the inhabitants. The genial influence of freedom has extended from England to this place; and tyranny is not felt.

The fortifications are regular, and the works are in excellent order. The troops are sober, and perfect in every part of their duty, though discipline is less strict than in other parts of Germany.

Marshal Sporhen, who is at the head of the army, is a man of humanity; and though delinquencies are severely punished by the sentence of a court martial, arbitrary inflictions are little known

* This ill-fated queen did not long survive this visit. Grief, probably, preyed on her heart, and accelerated the progress of disease.

The Hanoverian infantry, being all volunteers, do not make the same majestic appearance as some other German troops, because they are not picked men; but, it is allowed, that no body of men can behave better in action; nor is desertion at all frequent among them.

Two days after the arrival of our travellers at Hanover, they took a walk to Hernhausen, along a magnificent avenue, as broad, and double the length, of the Mall at St. James's. The palace itself has nothing extraordinary in its appearance; but the gardens, laid out in the Dutch taste, are very fine. The orangery is equal to any thing in Europe.

Here is a kind of rural theatre, where plays may be acted during the fine weather. A spacious amphitheatre is cut out in green seats, for the spectators; the stage is in the same taste, with rows of trees for side-scenes, and a great number of arbours, surrounded by lofty hedges, serve the actors to retire and dress in.

In these gardens are several large reservoirs and fountains, and on one side, a long canal of a quarter of a mile.

Having engaged to meet some company at Brunswick, they again returned to that court, and, after a week's stay, and taking leave of their friends, they revisited Hanover.

Dr. Moore mentions a laughable anecdote in a court lady at Brunswick, where a taste for literature is fashionable, encouraged by the duke and duchess. This lady, being about the duchess's person, and finding that those who had received the best education, and could converse on learned topics, were most acceptable to her high-

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ness, regretted, for the first time, that her mind had not been cultivated as it ought.

She was determined to retrieve the neglects of her education by assiduous study, and, mentioning her resolution, requested the duchess to lend her a book to begin with. The duchess applauded her design, and soon after sent her a French and German dictionary.

In a short time, her highness enquired how she relished the book. "Infinitely," replied this studious lady. "It is the most delightful book I ever saw. The sentences are all short, and easily understood, and the letters charmingly arranged in ranks, like soldiers on the parade; whereas, in some other books, which I have seen, they are mingled together like a mere mob; so that it is no pleasure to look at them, and very difficult to know what they mean. But I am no longer surprised," added she, "at the satisfaction your royal highness takes in study."

After Dr. Moore, and company, returned to Hanover, they dined several times at the palace. A regular household establishment is kept up; and strangers of distinction are entertained in a very magnificent manner.

They spent most of their time at Marshal Sporhen's. The conversation of a man of sense, who had been fifty years in the army, and a considerable part of that time in high rank, which led him to an intimacy with some of the most celebrated characters of the age, could not fail to be interesting.

The liberal, candid sentiments of this venerable man carried conviction, and commanded esteem. He was respected by people of all ranks, and listened to like an oracle. In his usual society were

some of his own age, who formed the private parties of George II. as often as he visited his native country. The memory of that monarch is still much revered. They tell a thousand little anecdotes concerning him, which at once evince the good disposition of the king, and their own gratitude. From these accounts, it appears that he was naturally of a very sociable temper, and entirely laid aside, when at Hanover, the state and reserve which he retained in England.

Nothing does more honour to his character, or can be a more unequivocal testimony of his love of equity, than his having governed his electorate, over which he had an unlimited power, with as much justice and moderation, as those whose rights are guarded by law and a jealous constitution.

As the time of the Prussian reviews was approaching, they hastened to leave this part of Germany, which they did with sincere regret, in order to be present at those grand military exhibitions.

Their first stage was Magdeburg, through a country perfectly level. The duchy of Magdeburg produces fine cattle, and a considerable quantity of corn. There are few enclosures here, or, indeed, in other parts of Germany, except such as surround the parks of princes.

The king of Prussia has a seat in the diet of the empire, as duke of Magdeburg. The capital, which bears the same name, is a very considerable town, well-built, and strongly fortified. Several manufactories are established here; the principal are those of woollen and silk.

Magdeburg is extremely well situated for trade, having an easy communication with Hamburg,
by

by the Elbe, and lying on the road between Upper and Lower Germany. It is also the strongest place belonging to his Prussian majesty, and where his principal magazines and founderies are established. In time of war, it is the repository of whatever he finds necessary to place out of the reach of sudden insult.

The country is well cultivated and fertile, for about two leagues beyond Magdeburg; afterwards it becomes more barren, and within a few leagues of Brandenburg, it is as sterile and sandy as the Deserts of Arabia.

Brandenburgh, from which the whole electorate takes its name, is a small town, divided into old and new, by a river, which separates the fort from both. The principal trade is carried on by some French woollen manufacturers, whom the king of Prussia has encouraged to settle here. The number of inhabitants are computed at one thousand five hundred.

On entering the Prussian garrison-towns, travellers are stopped at the gate and interrogated. The answers are all taken down in writing with much formality.

Arriving at Potsdam, they next day waited on Count Finkenstein, to know when the Duke of Hamilton could be presented to the king; at the same time requesting permission to attend the reviews. The count said, they must write to the king on this business; and, as it appeared to be the established rule, it was readily complied with.

Next morning one of the court servants called at their inn, and delivered a sealed letter, signed by the king, importing that, as the court would soon be at Berlin, the minister in waiting there, would give them information when they could

be presented, and that they were welcome to attend at all the reviews.

In the evening they were introduced to the prince and princess of Prussia, who constantly reside at Potsdam. The prince is a tall, stout-made, handsome man, about thirty-five years of age*. They had twice the honour of supping with those august personages, during their short stay at Potsdam.

At the first review they saw, there were about seven thousand went through their evolutions before the king. The prince of Prussia's son, a child about six or seven years old, was present on foot with his tutor, without any other attendant. It seemed to be the desire, both of the king and the prince, that their successor should be brought up in a hardy manner, and without any strong impression of his own importance. Sentiments of that kind spring up soon enough, in spite of all the pains that can be taken to check them.

The troops were drawn up in one line, along the summits of some hills. From this situation they descended over very rough ground, firing in grand divisions all the way, till they reached the plain, where they performed various evolutions.

The succeeding days they always passed the mornings with the troops in the field, and then amused themselves with such objects as the place presented.

The houses of Potsdam are built of a fine white freestone, and are almost all uniform in height. The streets are regular and well paved, and there are some very magnificent public buildings.

* The present king of Prussia, Frederick William.

The king has expressed a great inclination to see this town increase; and in consequence, several monied people have built houses here, partly to pay their court to his majesty, and partly for the advantage of letting them. But as the town did not rise so rapidly as he wished, the monarch ordered several streets to be built at once, at his own expence. This, at once, sunk the value of houses, and the speculators found that they had laid out their money to bad interest. At present there are more houses than inhabitants.

Our author was not a little surpris'd, at first, in walking round the town, to see buff belts, breeches, and waistcoats hanging to dry before the best houses; but he was afterwards informed, that each housekeeper has two, or more, soldiers quartered on him; and their apartments, for the most part, are on the first floor.

The king prefers having his soldiers quartered with the citizens, rather than in barracks; an irrefragable proof that an army can be well-disciplined without them.

The palace at Potsdam, or the castle, as it is called, is a very noble pile, with magnificent gardens adjoining. Some of the apartments are superbly fitted up. In one the ornaments are of massy silver.

The person who shewed the palace, asked them if they had any desire to see his majesty's wardrobe. On being answered in the affirmative, he conducted them to a chamber, where the monarch's clothes are deposited, and exhibited two blue coats faced with red, the lining of one a little torn; two yellow waistcoats, soiled with Spanish snuff; three pair of yellow breeches; and a suit of blue velvet, embroidered with silver.

Our

Our author imagined that the man had got a few of the king's old clothes, and kept them here to amuse strangers; but upon enquiry, he was assured, that what he had seen, together with two suits of uniform, kept at Sans Souci, formed the entire wardrobe of his Prussian majesty. As for the velvet suit, for grand occasions, it was about ten years old, and still enjoyed all the vigour of youth. Indeed, if the moths spared it as much as the monarch seemed to have done, it was likely to last the age of Methusalem.

In the bed-chamber, where the late king died, at the lower part of a window, which looks into the garden, they saw a piece of glass which occupied the space of four panes. This, they were told, was put on, to allow his majesty to see his troops exercise, when he was no longer able to leave his room. This amusement had been his supreme delight through life, and the ruling passion was felt strong in death. He continued to look at his grenadiers till he could hold up his head no longer; it was then occasionally lifted; and the sight of his men under arms was perceived to operate like a cordial. But, at last, this lost its effect: his eyes became dim, and he breathed his last.

Sans Souci is about half a league from Potsdam. The gallery contains a large collection of paintings, some of which are highly esteemed by connoisseurs; but, as the king is little swayed by names, and purchases what pleases himself, his collection in general is not so much valued, as perhaps it deserves. So much ideal merit is attached to particular artists and authors, that it is only such a man as his Prussian majesty who can emancipate himself from the trammels of prejudice,

judice, see with his own eyes, and decide by his own judgment.

The new palace of Sans Souci is certainly a very noble and splendid work. The offices are at a considerable distance; and are joined to the body of the palace by a double colonnade, which has a grand effect. The front of the palace seems rather crowded with statuary. It has a cupola, terminated by a large crown, supported by the three graces. The Duke of Hamilton aptly observed, that three Prussian grenadiers would have been more appropriate.

On the ground floor, in the centre, is a large hall, wholly cased with marble. It is called the Grotto, and its ornaments correspond with that name; but it is much better adapted to the climate of Italy than to this. In general the apartments are fitted up with royal magnificence.

Opposite to the old palace of Sans Souci, and immediately within the gardens, Lord Mareschal of Scotland has built a house, in which he constantly resides. It was natural to suppose his countrymen would wait on this distinguished nobleman, however different their politics. His amiable character gained him the esteem of all. On the front of his house is this inscription:

FREDERICUS II. NOBIS HÆC OTIA FECIT.

Adjoining to the house is a small garden, with a communication between it and the royal gardens, of which the king keeps the key, and frequently visits the veteran without any ceremony.

Our travellers set out for Berlin, and found the town more like the cantonment of a great army, than the capital of a kingdom, in a state of profound peace. The court itself resembled the levee of a
general

general in the field, except the foreign ministers and a few strangers; for there were no women, and every man wore a military uniform.

The British minister, Mr. Harris*, attended the Duke of Hamilton the day he was presented. The king conversed a considerable time with him. His majesty's countenance and manner seemed highly animated, and he behaved to his officers, and to every one, with a kind of gay affability.

The king was three days at Berlin before the grand reviews began. The whole number to be reviewed, consisted of about thirty-eight thousand men. This army was in the field three successive mornings, and the operations were different every day. We will not, however, attempt to describe them; suffice it to say, that even to those who were no judges of military evolutions, a very sensible pleasure was conveyed, from the exactness of the discipline, and the variety of the movements.

The evening after the reviews, there was a concert and supper at prince Henry's palace. The queen, the king's brothers, the prince and princess of Prussia, with many illustrious and distinguished persons, were present. The king himself did not attend; as business or literature has more charms for him than festivity.

Prince Henry's palace is one of the most magnificent buildings in Berlin. No subject of the king lives in a more sumptuous manner than this prince, who keeps a numerous establishment of servants, very richly dressed.

The day after the reviews at Berlin were over, the king, attended by his nephew the prince of Prussia, and the hereditary prince of Brunswick,

* Now Lord Malmesbury.

set out for Magdeburg, to continue his reviews, an occupation which takes up about six weeks, twice a year.

His absence from Berlin, however, made little relaxation in the duty, and none in the discipline of the troops. The reviews were scarcely over, when field days began. About one thousand five hundred, or two thousand troops, belonging to the garrison, were exercised in the park every morning, besides those who appeared on the parade for the ordinary guards.

No condition of life can be more active, and at the same time, have less variety in it, than that of a Prussian officer in the time of peace. He is constantly employed in the same occupation, and continually occupied in the same place. There is no rotation of troops, as in the British service. The regiments placed in garrison towns occupy their stations, till they are wanted for actual service.

It is dreaded, that if they were continually moved from one garrison to another, they would find more opportunities of deserting, to which they are exceedingly prone; and which, according to the present plan, they cannot easily carry into effect. For no sooner is a man missing, than a certain number of cannons are fired, which announce the desertion to the whole country. The peasants have a considerable reward for apprehending a deserter, and are liable to severe penalties, if they harbour him, or aid him in making his escape. Thus it is almost morally impossible to get off.

Their only amusement or relaxation from the duties of their profession, seems to be walking on the parade, and conversing with each other. The
most

most trifling faults are punished with severity: even a hat blowing off, or a fall from a horse, exposes a man to castigation. Voluntary and involuntary failures in the precision of discipline are alike noticed; in order to render them more careful and attentive. Fear is the grand engine that is used to enforce command; and man is here considered as a machine, which must act uniformly at all times.

Berlin is unquestionably one of the most beautiful cities of Europe. The streets are very regularly built, and of a commodious width. In the new town they run in straight lines; and one of them is a French league in length.

It has been asserted, that Berlin covers more ground than Paris; but this is certainly not the fact; nor is the population of the former at all equal to that of the latter. Perhaps Berlin does not contain more than a fifth of the inhabitants of Paris.

There are few buildings in this city of peculiar magnificence; yet the houses, in general, have a pretty effect, being erected of a fine white freestone, generally two, or at most three, stories high.

The principal edifices are the king's palace, and that of prince Henry, both very magnificent piles. The arsenal also, built in the form of a square, is a noble structure, and generally contains arms for two hundred thousand men.

The new Roman Catholic church, is by far the most elegant religious edifice in Berlin. Here liberty of conscience is allowed to the full, nor is the least control usurped over the minds of men.

There is an equestrian statue of William the Great Elector, erected on the new bridge over the Spree. This is esteemed a very fine piece of statuary.

tuary. In the corner of one of the squares is a statue of Marshal Schwerin, who was killed at the battle of Prague, in the moment of victory, gained by his single effort in the eighty-fourth year of his age.

The society, into which strangers may be admitted in this capital, is neither various nor extensive. The Prussian officers, of the higher ranks, whose time is not entirely engrossed by the duties of their profession, live mostly with their families, or with each other; and it is said that the sovereign does not approve of their forming intimacies with foreign ministers or with strangers.

During Dr. Moore's stay here, the princess of Prussia gave a breakfast in a garden, to which a large company were invited. The dancing continued all the forenoon. On this occasion, the German state and ceremony, which have so often been talked of, seemed wholly to be laid aside, and all ranks mixed in social festivity.

Our travellers received many civilities from some of the Prussian ministers, from the British envoy extraordinary, and from some of the representatives of foreign courts. In short, they had every reason to be satisfied with the reception they met with, and the style in which they lived.

The queen's court, which was generally held at Mont Bijou, a small palace just without the gates, or at Shoenhausen, about two leagues from Berlin, was conducted in the same manner as the other courts of Europe; whereas that of Sans Souci, is on quite a new plan. There no strangers are received, nor any persons who have not real business with the king.

"His majesty," says Dr. Moore, "very seldom appears at the queen's court, or at any place where

women form part of the assembly. When he inclines to unbend, his amusements are of a nature in which they can take no share. I once said to a lady of the queen's court, that it was a pity his majesty did not love women. Considering his time of life, said she, we could dispense with his love; but it is hard that he cannot endure us."

Notwithstanding this humour of the king's, the ladies in Berlin are by no means neglected by the men in general. Many of the married women have avowed admirers, who attend them on all occasions, and this is so far from raising any scandal or jealousy, that the husband feels himself a little out of countenance, when his wife has no humble servant of this kind.

On the other hand, the married gentlemen profess the most passionate regard for the other sex, and frequently have a known favourite, who is received in all companies, on the most familiar footing, and without the least reflection on either, let their intimacy be ever so close, or so well known. Here, indeed, unfortunate love is only pitied; it is never regarded as a crime, as in some other countries.

"Jealousy," says our author, "is held in equal contempt and detestation, and scandal is very little known. People seldom trouble their heads about the affairs of their neighbours. If, in the course of conversation, an intimacy of a particular kind is hinted at, between persons of different sexes, it is mentioned incidentally as a fact of no importance, and without the smallest blame or ill-natured reflection on either of the parties. One reason of this may be, that there is scarce such a thing as an old maid, in his Prussian majesty's dominions."

Dr. Moore was much surprised, on his first arrival at Berlin, to find the freedom with which the people spoke of the measures of government, and the conduct of the king. Political subjects were discussed with as little ceremony as at a London coffee-house. The same freedom appeared at the booksellers shops, where literary productions of all kinds were openly sold. A pamphlet, on the partition of Poland, wherein the king's character was treated with all the bitterness of satire, was to be had without difficulty.

A government, supported by an army of one hundred and eighty thousand men, may safely disregard the criticisms of a few speculative politicians, and the pen of the satirist. While his majesty retains the power of disposing of the lives and properties of his subjects, as his wisdom shall direct, he allows them the most perfect freedom to amuse themselves as they please.

The mind of this monarch is infinitely superior to that gossiping disposition, by which the despicable race of whisperers and retailers of scandal thrive at some courts. Convinced that the same perfidy which can betray a real conversation, may invent a false one, he listens to no little malicious tales of what has passed during the hours of convivial mirth. The mean repeater of anecdotes of this kind would be driven from his presence with disgrace.

Indeed, so perfectly free is this great prince from suspicion and personal fear, that he resides at Sans Souci without any guard whatever. An orderly sergeant, or corporal only, attends there in the day time, to carry occasional orders to the garrison at Potsdam, whither he always returns in the evening.

At Sans Souci, where the king sleeps, there are not above ten or twelve persons of every description, while the guards are shut up at Potsdam, half a league distant, and in case of any attempt on their sovereign, could be of no use. These circumstances considered, it is impossible not to entertain a very favourable opinion of the magnanimity of a man, who can feel himself happy and secure, and yet be so defenceless and exposed.

Berlin, though not a fortified, is certainly a very military town, containing a garrison of thirty thousand men. The police is pretty well regulated; yet purity of morals seems very little to be regarded. The public courtesans are very numerous and impudent; nor is any one allowed to molest or abuse them, merely for pursuing their flagitious trade.

The better sort of citizens and manufacturers live entirely among those of their own rank, and without affecting the manners of the courtiers, or stooping to the mean debauchery of the commonalty, maintain the decent propriety and honesty of the German character.

His Prussian majesty has applied himself, with unwearied zeal, to the introduction of manufactures, and the extension of commerce; but all his efforts have been rendered abortive by injudicious taxes, by monopolies, and other restrictions. Commerce, when confined or shackled, immediately droops and dwindles; or alarmed, like Love,

————— At sight of human ties,
Spreads its light wings and in a moment flies. POPE.

Though the revenues of this prince are more considerable than is generally imagined, yet many
with

with greater, effect infinitely less. While the income of a nation is sometimes dissipated, without taste or magnificence, on the trumpery of a court, the king of Prussia employs his resources in improving his kingdom, and adorning his cities.

In his dominions, there are none of those posts which enrich individuals at the expence of the public; or where the salary is large, and the requisite talents small. If those, who hold the most lucrative employments in this court, can support a becoming dignity, by the emoluments of their office, and secure a moderate competence for their families, it is the utmost they can expect.

All commodities are highly taxed in Prussia; and considerable revenues are drawn even from the vanity of the subjects. The rage which the Germans have for titles, prompts many of the wealthy citizens to purchase some office about court; but the name and title are all they procure by this traffic; for, with regard to the real business of the office, they have as little connection with it, after the bargain, as before. Though the king scarcely ever consults with any body, he has more nominal privy counsellors than any king in christendom.

The army is chiefly composed of provincial regiments, levied in the different circles or cantons, into which the Prussian dominions are divided, in proportion to the size and population.

Whatever number of sons a peasant may have, they are all liable to be taken into the service, save one, who is left to assist in the management of the farm. The rest wear badges from their childhood, to shew that they are destined for soldiers,

diers, and ready to serve when the state requires them*.

The king, however, endeavours to save his own peasantry, and draws as many recruits as he can from other countries, who remain continually with the regiments in which they are placed; while the native Prussians have, every year, eight or nine months furlough, during which they return to their relations, and employ themselves as they please. Hence, it appears, that the Prussian army is neither more nor less, than a standing militia.

From Berlin, the Duke of Hamilton and our author made an excursion to the court of Mecklenburg Strelitz. The weather being then sultry, they thought it most advisable to travel in the night, and accordingly set out about seven in the evening. The first post house on that road is four German miles from Berlin, chiefly through a wood; and, as the night became very dark, the postillions lost their way.

After many ineffectual attempts to recover the path, they unyoked the horses, and suffered them to graze till day break, when they proceeded by Oranienburg to Reinburg, a magnificent castle belonging to Prince Henry of Prussia, with very fine gardens.

When they arrived at New Strelitz, they were informed that the court was at Brandenburg, to which place, after a short stay at Strelitz, they

* There is something shocking in this despotism. It lacerates every tie of nature, by depriving a father of the interest he has in his son, and shews how far man may be degraded, and yet submit. Yet, the Prussian soldier, in many respects, enjoys much comfort and liberty.

proceeded

proceeded, and arrived there on the third day after they had left Berlin.

No sooner were our travellers announced, than they received an invitation to dinner, and a coach and equipage were ordered to attend the Duke of Hamilton.

The reigning duke and his sister, both unmarried, received them in the most polite manner. After dinner, there was a concert of music, and card-playing till supper.

The country in the environs is much more fertile than about Berlin. The southern part of the duchy, indeed, is flat, sandy, and sterile; but the northern part is of a rich verdure, finely diversified with hills, meadows, woods, and lakes.

This country produces plenty of corn, hemp, flax, sheep, and horses. New Brandenburg is a neat and thriving town, very agreeably situated. The inhabitants carry on a considerable trade in hops.

The second day after their arrival, they spent the forenoon in viewing every thing worthy of notice in the town, and dined again at court with a still more numerous party than the preceding day. After dinner, they accompanied his highness and the princess to an assembly in the town, and returned to sup at court, when they were entertained with music.

Highly flattered with the attentions they had experienced, they took their leave next morning, and returned by Old Strelitz to Berlin.

“While British subjects,” says Dr. Moore, “pass through this country, they will naturally reflect, with gratitude and veneration, on the character of a princess, whose virtues are an ornament to the British throne, and whose amiable
manners

manners and prudent conduct have united the affections of a people divided by party, and irreconcilable on almost every other subject."

On their return to Berlin, they were given to understand, by a letter from Lord Mareschal, that the king, and some personages of high rank, were expected at Potsdam in a few days. Soon after, they received a particular invitation from Count Finkenstein to the celebrities which were about to take place at Sans Souci. This afforded them the higher satisfaction, as it was a mark of distinguished respect, and as it would give them an opportunity of seeing the king of Prussia with less reserve than at Berlin.

On arriving at Potsdam, they found his majesty was at the palace of Sans Souci, and that the Princess Amelia was to be mistress of the entertainments. Plays were performed by French comedians, in the very first style, every second or third day. The company assembled, in one of the apartments of the palace, about five in the afternoon, and proceeded to the playhouse about an hour after.

The theatre was excellently adapted for the reception of a small audience. It had neither boxes nor pit, but semicircular benches in the front of the stage, raised one above the other.

After the king was seated, the piece began, and was usually finished about nine, when the company returned to the apartment from whence they set out, and spent an hour in familiar conversation with his majesty, after which he retired.

The Princess Amelia presided at table, and the company was pretty numerous. Our travellers had several times the honour of being of the party.

The celebrated French actor, Le Kain, appeared in some of his principal characters; but as he never performed in comedy, and the king was most attached to tragedy, they had only the latter.

The tragedy of Oedipus is his majesty's favourite piece, and was twice represented. The king enjoyed it much, and was particularly pleased with some reflections against priests, though the tragedy of Oedipus, on the whole, does them great honour.

A French tragedy and an Italian opera were represented at the theatre alternately. The king attended at both, and displayed in his countenance that extreme sensibility to music, which constitutes a part of his character.

When there was no representation at the theatre, his majesty had a private concert in his own apartment, where he himself performed on the German flute, an instrument that he uses with much facility of execution.

“The more,” says Dr. Moore, “that I see and hear of this extraordinary man, the more I am astonished. I like to stand near him, to hear him speak, and to observe his movements, his attitudes, his most indifferent actions. He always behaves with particular affability to the Duke of Hamilton. One evening, before the play began, his grace and I were standing with Count Finkenstein, in a room adjoining to the great apartment where the company were assembled. The king entered alone, when he was not expected, and began a conversation with the duke.

“He asked several questions relative to the British constitution; particularly at what age a peer could take his seat in parliament. When the duke replied, at twenty-one—It is evident from

from that, said the king, that the English patri-cians acquire the necessary talents for legislature much sooner than those of ancient Rome, who were not admitted into the senate, till the age of forty.

“He then enquired after the state of Lord Chatham's health, and expressed high esteem for the character of that minister. He asked me, if I had received any letters by the last post, and if they mentioned any thing respecting affairs in America. He observed, there were accounts from Holland, that the English troops had been driven from Boston, and that the Americans were in possession of that place. I told him, our letters informed us, that the army had left Boston to make an attack with more effect somewhere else.

“He smiled, and said—If you will not allow the retreat to have been an affair of necessity, you will, at least, admit that it was *tout à fait à propos*. He concluded by remarking, In short, gentlemen, I do not understand these things, for I have no colonies; I hope you will get well through the business, but it seems to me to be a little thorny.”

The anecdotes respecting the late king of Prussia are so numerous and so well known, that we shall not enlarge farther on the character and conduct of this extraordinary man, who gained the admiration of his contemporaries, and will live in the memory of the latest posterity.

The festivities at Potsdam being over, the day before they left that place, they dined with Lord Mareschal, who took leave of his countrymen with an emotion that marked his regard for them, and his fears that he should never see them again.

Our author says, that had he been in a humour for description, their journey to Dresden, through the most beautiful and fertile part of Germany, would have afforded ample opportunity. He declines, however, ringing chimes in woods, meadows, horses, sheep, China ware, and fine women; and conveys his readers at once from Potsdam to Dresden.

Having been presented to the elector and electress of Saxony by the British minister, they had the honour of dining with their highnesses the same day. The court was numerous and splendid, and in the evening there was card-playing for about two hours.

Dresden, though not one of the largest, is certainly one of the most delightful, cities in Germany. It is built on both sides of the Elbe, which is here of considerable breadth. The magnificent and commodious manner in which the two opposite parts of the town are united, have a fine effect.

Few princes in Europe are so magnificently lodged as the elector of Saxony. The palace and museum have been often described*. The last contains a prodigious number of curiosities, natural and artificial; but it would be tiresome to enumerate them. The gallery of pictures is much esteemed. It contains many chef d'œuvres of the first masters.

The elector has a collection of the finest pieces of the porcelain of Saxony, from the first attempts made here, in this elegant art, to the latest improvements. This, independent of the beauty of many of the pieces, is a matter of real curiosity,

* See Hanway's Travels, &c.

as it marks the progress of ingenuity and invention.

Our travellers generally took their morning walk in the gardens of Count Bruhl, on the high banks of the Elbe. Nothing can be imagined more delightful, than the view from a lofty terrace in these gardens. This splendid nobleman, like many others of the same description, after amassing a collection of every thing that was rare and costly, and furnishing his palace with the most princely ornaments, lived to see his mansion stripped of its finest decorations.

The Saxon troops make a noble appearance; and appear to be more free and unrestrained in their manner than the Prussians. The uniform of the guards is red and yellow; that of the marching regiments white.

The soldiers, during summer, wear only waistcoats, when they mount guard. The sergeants, besides their other arms, are furnished with a large pistol, which hangs from the left side. The Saxon band of music is very complete.

From Dresden they proceeded to Prague, through a country, in many places very beautiful, and varied with the most agreeable rural objects.

Prague, the capital of Bohemia, stands in a hollow, surrounded on all sides with hills. Those which lie nearest the town are comprehended within the fortifications. This city is of great extent, and retains some marks of former splendor, but more of present decay.

All the houses, that have any appearance of magnificence, are old; for, since it is no longer the residence of royalty, the Bohemian nobility, who can afford the expence, live at Vienna.

But

But though the wealth and magnificence of Prague are dwindled away, religion seems to have as many votaries as ever. Our author says, he never recollects having seen more glaring marks of devotion in any place. The corners of the streets, bridges, and public buildings, are all ornamented with crucifixes, images of the Virgin, and statues of saints, of every country, age, and sex.

The inhabitants are constantly prostrating themselves, on their knees, before one or other of those statues, but particularly on the large bridge over the Moldau, where there is the greatest concourse of passengers, and the utmost profusion of saints.

Not contented with kneeling, some of the pious devotees kiss the earth, and offer their petitions, with as much ardour, as if the objects represented were really present. But there is one saint who has more votaries than all the rest put together. He is called St. Nepomuc; and, it is said, he was ordered by some cruel tyrant to be thrown over a bridge, by which his neck was broken. Notwithstanding this scurvy treatment, he is supposed to have a particular affection for bridges ever since; and on such structures he has generally a place throughout Bohemia. He has the greatest reputation of any saint for curing barrenness in women; but how he acquired this character, Dr. Moore did not enquire.

They found an acquaintance at Prague, where they least expected it. As the Duke of Hamilton and our author were talking in the street, a priest overheard them, and after looking earnestly at them for some time, he came up and addressed them in these words: "I do assure you,

now, I am an Irishman too." This easy kind of introduction soon produced an intimacy; and they asked him how he could know that they were Irish? "Am I not," said he, "after hearing you speak English, my dears."

He turned out to be an honest obliging fellow, and proved an useful and entertaining cicerone.

After having visited the royal apartments, they were shewn the window, in the secretary of state's office, from whence three noblemen were thrown in the year 1618. This was a very violent mode of turning people out of power; but it is probable, the party in opposition had tried gentler means in vain.

They walked over the heights, from which the Prussians attempted to carry the town, immediately after the defeat of Prince Charles of Lorraine and Count Brown. The attempt, however, was unsuccessful, though it displayed great military enterprise in the general.

They next directed their route to Vienna. On arriving at this city, the postillions drive directly to the custom-house, where the baggage undergoes a very severe scrutiny, which neither fair words nor promises can mitigate. They detained our travellers' books for some time, to examine them at their leisure. The empress, it appeared, had given strict orders, that no books of impiety, lewdness, or immorality, should be allowed to enter her dominions, or to be circulated among her subjects; and her commands were punctually obeyed.

Unfortunately for them, the ambassador, Sir Robert Keith, was lately gone to England; but his secretary did every thing in his power to supply his place, and by him they were introduced
to

to Count Degenfeldt, ambassador from the United States, who furnished them with a list of visits proper to be made, and had the politeness to accompany them.

The first day they waited on Prince Kaunitz, they were invited to dine, and found a very numerous company at his house. They were afterwards introduced to Count and Countess Thune, at whose house, or that of their sister, Countess Walsstein, there was an agreeable party every evening.

The city of Vienna, exclusive of the suburbs, is of no great extent; nor can it be enlarged, on account of the strong fortifications that surround it. It is supposed to contain seventy thousand inhabitants.

The streets, in general, are narrow, and the houses lofty. Some of the public buildings and palaces are magnificent; but they appear to less advantage, for want of room. The chief are the imperial palace, the library and museum, the palaces of Princes Lichtenstein, Eugene, and some others.

Though Vienna may never again be exposed to a siege, yet measures have been taken, in that case, to prevent the necessity of destroying the suburbs. No houses, without the walls, are allowed to be built nearer the glacis than six hundred yards; so that there is a broad circular field all round the town, which, exclusive of other advantages, has a very beautiful and salubrious effect. Beyond this plain, the suburbs are built; and they form a very extensive and magnificent town, of an irregular circular form.

The suburbs are computed to contain more than two hundred thousand inhabitants; yet they

are by no means so populous, in proportion to their extent, as the town.

About a week after their arrival, they had the honour to be presented to the emperor, whose manner was affable, easy, and gracefully plain.

The same day they drove to Schonbrun, a palace about a league from Vienna, where the empress then resided. Our author says, he had no small curiosity to see the celebrated Maria Theresa, whose fortunes interested Europe for so many years. Her magnanimity, in supporting the calamities to which the early part of her life was exposed, and the moderation with which she bore prosperity, secured to her universal approbation.

She conversed for some time with the Duke of Hamilton, in an easy and cheerful manner; and behaved to all with an affable dignity. She had then but small remains of that beauty for which she was distinguished in her youth; but her countenance indicated benevolence and good humour.

Two or three days after, they were presented, at a full court, to the two unmarried archduchesses, their sister, the Princess Albert of Saxony, and the Princess of Modena, who was married to the emperor's brother, and who had lately arrived with her husband, on a visit to the empress.

The imperial family are uncommonly well-looking, and have a very strong family likeness. Their complexion is fair, with large blue eyes, and some of them are distinguished by the thick lip, so long remarked in the Austrian family.

One of the unmarried archduchesses, who was formerly thought the most beautiful, had suffered considerably by the smallpox. "A court lady,"

lady," says Dr. Moore, "told me, that as soon as this princess understood what her disease was, she called for a looking-glass, and, with unaffected pleasantry, took leave of those features she had once heard praised, and which she believed would be greatly changed." This required greater equanimity in a fine woman, in the bloom of youth, than most reverses of fortune which could have befallen her.

Our travellers no where spent their time more agreeably than in Vienna. There was not such a constant round of amusements, as to fill up a man's time, without any plan or occupation of his own; and yet there was enough to satisfy any mind, not perfectly vacant and dependent on external objects. They dined abroad two or three times in a week; and sometimes saw a little play, but no deep gaming. At some houses there was no play of any kind; but a species of conversation.

Indeed, there is no city in Europe, in Dr. Moore's opinion, where a young gentleman, after his university education is finished, can pass a year with so much advantage; because, if properly recommended, he may mix, on an easy footing, with people of rank, and have opportunities of improving, by the conversation of sensible men and accomplished women.

In no capital could he see fewer examples, or have fewer opportunities, of deep gaming, open profligacy, or gross debauchery. He may learn to pass his time agreeably, independent of a continued round of amusements. He may be gradually led to enjoy a rational conversation; and, at length, acquire the blessed faculty of acquiescing in moderate pleasures.

After they had sojourned some time in Vienna, they had an invitation from M. de Breteuil, to dine on the top of Mount Calenberg, in the vicinity of this city. Common carriages cannot be dragged up it, on account of its steepness; and, therefore, there are some of a particular construction, calculated for such expeditions.

Having reached the summit, where there is a convent of monks, their eyes were feasted with two landscapes of very opposite features. The one consists of a series of wild mountains; the other of the imperial city of Vienna, with the various branches of the Danube flowing through a rich champaign of boundless extent.

The dinner-table was placed in a field, under the shade of some trees. Every delicacy of the season was served up. Madame de Matignon, a very beautiful and sprightly lady, daughter to their host, did the honours. Some of the finest women of Vienna, her companions, were of the company; and the whole entertainment was conducted with equal taste and gaiety.

During the dessert, some of the fathers of the convent, came and presented the company with baskets of fruit and salad, from their garden. They were invited to sit down, and the ladies pledged them in tokay.

The ladies were afterwards allowed to enter the convent; and in spite of the gravity and mortified looks of the fathers, they could not help being pleased with the appearance of so many fine women, to whose society they had not been accustomed.

One lady, of a gay disposition, laid hold of a little scourge which hung at one of the father's belts, and desired he would make her a present
of



Kirk. del.

Dodley. sculp.

The Gallant Monk of Mount Calenberg.

Published Novr 1. 1797. by E. Newbery; corner of St Pauls

p276

of it; for, having been, she said, a great sinner, she wished to use it when she returned home.

The father gallantly begged she would spare her fair skin, assuring her he would give himself a hearty flogging that very evening; and to prove he was in earnest, immediately fell on his knees, and began to whip his shoulders soundly, declaring that, when the ladies retired, he would lay it on his naked body with the same violence; for he was determined she should be as free from sin, as on the day of her birth.

This melted the heart of the lady. She begged the father would take no more of her faults on his shoulders.—She now assured him that her faults were very venial, and that she was convinced what he had already done would clear her as completely, as if he should whip himself to the bone.

Though this may appear ludicrous, Dr. Moore assures us, the scene past in downright earnest; and, to prevent farther mischief, he put the scourge in his pocket.

On their return to Vienna, they spent the evening at Countess Walstein's, where the emperor unexpectedly came in, and laughed heartily at the story of the father, desiring to see his scourge.

He conversed with the affability of a private gentleman, and seemed desirous to take off all restraint from the conversation of others. The ladies kept their seats, some of them knotting all the time he remained. The men continued standing while he stood, and when he was seated, most part of them sat down also.

Though the court of Vienna has never been celebrated for gallantry, and the empress is very
strict

strict in observing the morals of her ladies; yet our author says, it is not uncommon for married women to avow the greatest degree of friendship and attachment to men, who are not their husbands, and to live with them, in great intimacy, without hurting their reputation, or being suspected by their own sex of having deviated from the laws of modesty.

The Viscount de Laval, having proposed to Dr. Moore to take a short tour with him into Hungary, they set out for Presburg, which, like Vienna, has suburbs more magnificent than itself. In this city the states of Hungary hold their assemblies, and in the cathedral church, the sovereign is crowned.

The castle is a noble Gothic building, of a square form, with a tower at each angle. The regalia of Hungary, consisting of the crown and sceptre of St. Stephen, the first king, are deposited here, under seven locks, the keys of which are kept by as many Hungarian noblemen. No prince is held by the populace as legally their sovereign, till he be crowned with the diadem of King Stephen; and they have a notion that the fate of the nation depends on the crown remaining in their possession.

By the constitution of Hungary, the crown is still held to be elective. This point is not disputed: all that is insisted on is, that the heir of the House of Austria shall be elected as often as a vacancy happens.

The view from the citadel is very extensive, commanding the vast and fertile plains of Hungary.

After a short, but agreeable, stay at Presburg, they travelled across a very fertile country to the
palace

palace of Esterhásie, the residence of the prince of that name, who is one of the highest Hungarian nobility, and one of the most magnificent subjects in Europe.

His palace is a noble pile, situated near a lake. The apartments are equally grand and commodious, and the furniture proportionably splendid. Just by the palace is a theatre; and in the gardens a large room, with commodious apartments for masquerades and balls.

The prince, hearing that M. de Laval was in the garden, sent them an invitation to the opera, which was to be performed that evening, an honour which they were obliged to decline, on account of their being in a travelling dress. The prince afterwards sent them a carriage, in which they drove round the gardens and parks. These are of vast extent, and beautiful beyond description; arbours, fountains, woods, hills, and valleys are all mixed in charming confusion.

Having wandered here many hours, quite in raptures with the scenes that continually presented themselves, they returned to the inn, where the prince sent them some tokay, champaign, and old hock.

Hungary is a very cheap country, and the soil is very fertile, in some places producing the most esteemed grape in Europe. It is beautified with lakes and rivers, which fall into the Danube. It contains an excellent breed of horses adapted for war.

The Hungarians are remarkably handsome and well-shaped. Their appearance is set off by their dress, which is peculiar and becoming. The ladies are some of them eminently beautiful,
and

and some of the finest women at the court of Vienna, are from this country.

None of the Austrian subjects are taxed so gently, or enjoy so many privileges, as the Hungarians. This arises from various private, as well as political, reasons.

Dr. Moore was so pleased with the country and the conversation of M. de Laval, that it would have given him pleasure to have extended his excursion farther; however, his companion being obliged to set out for Chambery, they immediately returned to Vienna.

On the feast of St. Stephen, they had the pleasure of seeing the emperor dine in public with the knights. He was at the head of the table; his brother and son-in-law sat next him, and the other knights, according to seniority; all in the robes of their order,

The archduchesses, with some of the principal ladies of the court, were at a balcony within the hall, to see this ceremony. Her Hungarian guards, with their sabres drawn, surrounded the table.

The honour of serving the emperor, at this solemnity, belongs entirely to the Hungarians. When he called for drink, a nobleman of that nation poured a little of the wine into a cup, and tasted it; then filled another, which he presented, with one knee touching the ground. The emperor often smiled upon his cup bearer, and seemed to consider submissive bendings as greatly misplaced; but tolerated their continuance, in compliance with ancient custom.

After the feast of St. Stephen, they witnessed the annual ceremony in commemoration of the defeat of the Turkish army, and the raising the
siege

siege of Vienna, by John Sobieski, king of Poland. The imperial family, and the principal nobility, of both sexes, walked in solemn procession, and heard mass at the church of St. Stephen. In the middle of the street, leading from the palace to the church, a platform was raised, on which the procession walked. The streets were lined with the imperial guards, and the windows and tops of the houses were crowded with spectators. A prodigious train of bishops, priests, and monks, followed the imperial family; and a numerous band of music played as they went along.

As this is a day of rejoicing, the richest dresses are thought most expressive of pious gratitude; and the ladies displayed their devotion in the most brilliant manner.

Next day the imperial family dined in public, and numbers went to see them; though it seems strange, that it should give any pleasure to spectators to see people eating their victuals. Same evening, there was a grand masquerade at Schonbrun, in honour of the archduke and the princess of Modena, for which four thousand tickets were distributed.

The principal rooms of that magnificent palace were thrown open, for the reception of the company. Collations and the choicest wines were served in profusion to all who asked for them.

At the end of a large dining room, a seat was raised for the empress and some of her ladies. Here a grand ballet was danced by the archduke, the archduchess, the princess of Modena, and some of the principal nobility, to the number of twenty-four.

The emperor mixed with the company without ceremony or distinction, taking no part but as a spectator.

spectator. He was conversing with an English gentleman in the middle of the hall, without observing that a new ballet was about to be danced, when the master of the ceremonies whispered him in the ear. His manner was affable to the extreme, and perfectly free from the reserved and lofty deportment, assumed by some, on account of high birth. "Whoever has the honour to be in company with him," says Dr. Moore, "so far from being checked by such despicable pride, has need to be on his guard, not to adopt such a degree of familiarity, as would certainly be improper to use."

One evening, at the Countess of Walslein's, where the conversation turned on etiquette, and its inconveniences at certain courts, and an oblique compliment was paid to his majesty for banishing it as much as possible from his own, the emperor made the following judicious observations. "It would be hard, indeed," said he, "if, because I have the misfortune to be an emperor, I should be deprived of the pleasures of social life, which are so much to my taste. All the grimace and parade, to which people in my situation are accustomed from their cradle, have not made me so vain as to imagine, that I am, in any essential quality, superior to other men; and if I had any tendency to such an opinion, the surest way to get rid of it, is to mix, as I do, in society, when I have daily occasion of finding myself inferior in talents to those I meet with. Conscious of this, I endeavour to please and to be pleased; and as much as the inconvenience of my situation will permit, to enjoy the blessings of society like other men; convinced that the man who is se-

cluded

cluded from those, and raises himself above friendship, is also raised above happiness, and deprived of the means of acquiring knowledge."

Such language and sentiments do honour to the man, as well as the monarch.

Before they quitted Vienna for the last time, they made an excursion to Prince Lichtenstein's, at Felberg, about forty miles from the capital. It is a fine old mansion, with large apartments, furnished in the most magnificent style. Here they found several persons of high rank, and the most splendid entertainment.

The day after their arrival, breakfast was served to the company separately, in their own apartments, as is the custom here. After this, they set out for another villa, belonging to the prince, at six miles distance, where the company was to be entertained with hunting.

Leaving their carriages at the verge of the woods, they got upon a kind of vehicle of the form of benches, with stuffed seats, on which six or eight persons may place themselves, one behind the other. They slide over the ground like a sledge, passing along paths and trackless ways, over which no wheel carriage could be drawn.

After being conveyed in this manner across the wood, they came to a very large open plain, in which were several little circular enclosures of trees and underwood, at wide intervals from each other.

The company having taken their seats again in some portable chairs, near one of these thickets, a body of peasants were perceived moving towards the little wood in a semicircular form, to rouse the game from the trees and bushes. This being

done, the massacre began with fufils, which were charged by the fervants. The prince himfelf hardly ever miffed : he killed, to his own fhare, above thirty partridges, fome pheafants, and three hares.

“ At the beginning of this fcene, I was a good deal furprifed,” fays Dr. Moore, “ to fee a fervant hand a fufil to the princefs, who with great coolnefs took aim at a partridge, and brought it to the ground. With the fame eafe ſhe killed ten or twelve partridges or pheafants, at about double the number of ſhots. The execution done by the reſt of the company was by no means conſiderable.”

The following day, the prince conducted them to another of his feats, where there is a very fine open wood, full of deer of every kind, and alfo a great number of wild boars, one of which laſt the Duke of Hamilton had permission to kill.

Nothing could furpaſs the politeneſs and magnificence, with which the company was entertained during the whole of their ſtay. However, as our travellers intended to ſpend the winter in Italy, they ſoon returned to Vienna, and made preparations for their intended journey. Yet they could not think of leaving a place, where they had formed ſo many friendships, and ſpent their time in ſuch an agreeable manner, without many painful ſtruggles and voluntary delays.

Before Dr. Moore quits the ſubject of Vienna, he makes ſome obſervations on the military eſta bliſhment of the country, and the ſtate of the peasantry, who, in many parts are ſtill under vaſſalage. This unhappy ſituation deprefſes the ſpirit of induſtry, and cramps even the exertions of the mind ; renders the maſter too frequently tyrannical,

rannical, and the bondman discontented and revengeful.

In regard to religion, he says there certainly appears a warmer and more general attachment to it in Vienna, than in any great town of Germany; at the same time that there is also a greater appearance of satisfaction and happiness, than in places where religious impressions are more feeble and less prevalent. Hence it is obvious, that the one is the consequence of the other. Indeed, without religion, the lives of the happiest would be a dreadful blank; and those of the unhappy, must be absolute despair.

The ladies here, with a deep sense of religion, blend a superstitious veneration for the Virgin Mary, or some saint. Our author, taking up a book one day, which lay on a lady's table, a small picture of the Virgin, on vellum, fell from between the leaves, and under it the subsequent inscription.

“ This is presented by —— to her dearest friend —— in token of the sincerest regard and affection; begging that, as often as she beholds this figure of the blessed Virgin, she may mix a sentiment of affection for her absent friend, with the emotions of gratitude and adoration she feels for the mother of Jesus.”

The lady informed him, that it was usual for intimate friends to send similar presents to each other, when they were likely to be separated for any length of time.

“ There seems,” observes Dr. Moore, “ to be something exceedingly tender and pathetic in blending friendship with religious sentiments, and thus by a kind of consecration, endeavouring to
to

to preserve the former from the effects of time and absence. The perusal of this inscription, recalled to my memory certain connections I had at home, the impetuosity of which recollection affected me beyond expression."

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